SMALL SCREENS: Students compete to create cell-phone cinema | **Page 17**

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Thursday

MARK ZIMMERMAN/AP

Wesley Franks at the remains of his Okla. home.

Scorched Earth: Grass fires claim 5 lives in Texas, Okla. | 3

Vote Backed: U.N. official deems Iraq elections credible | 5

Pat Chance: Ramsey may get the call for decisive game vs. Eagles | 9

WeekendPass

Pop Your Cork: Celebrate the new year and say goodbye to the old at any number of local haunts with live music, dancing, champers or brew.

>> INSIDE

Weather >> Rain, A.M. Fog

52 | 40

FULL FORECAST ON PAGE 21

REUTERS

Europe's New Eyes

LIFTOFF: A Russian Soyuz rocket blasts off from Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on Wednesday, carrying the first in a planned $4 billion network of European orbiters, known as Galileo, that are expected to make satellite navigation on Earth wider-ranging and free of U.S. control. ✤ **Vision quest:** Europeans say Galileo will be more precise than U.S. GPS system | **Page 6**

Plea Deal In Enron Scandal

Accounting chief now a likely witness against ex-CEOs

HOUSTON | A former top accountant at Enron Corp. sealed his plea deal with prosecutors, becoming a key potential witness in the upcoming fraud trial of former CEOs Kenneth Lay and Jeffrey Skilling.

Lay and Skilling were granted two extra weeks to adjust to the setback before their much anticipated trial, the last and biggest of a string of corporate scandal cases, starts at the end of January.

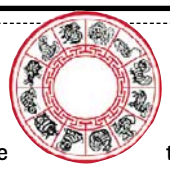
Causey

The accountant, Richard Causey, pleaded guilty to securities fraud Wednesday in return for a seven-year prison term — which could be shortened to five years if prosecutors are satisfied with his cooperation in the trial. He also must forfeit $1.25 million to the government, according to the plea deal.

Causey's arrangement included a five-page statement of fact in which he admitted that he and other senior Enron managers made various false public filings and statements.

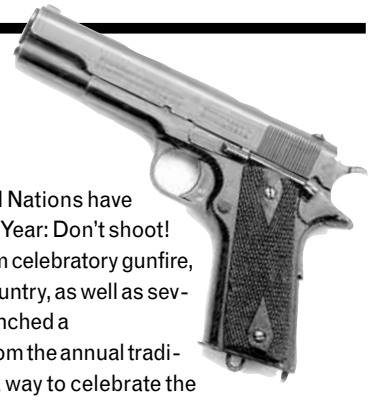
Lay, Skilling and Causey had been scheduled to be tried together Jan. 17 on conspiracy, fraud and other charges related to the scandal-ridden company's collapse more than four years ago. The deal leaves Lay and Skilling with another opponent rather than an ally who has been part of their united defense front since the trio was first indicted last year. KRISTEN HAYS (AP)

LUCK | **Dogs Need Not Apply** Chinese tradition says that next year will be bad luck for people born under the sign of the dog — a self-fulfilling prophecy for some job-seekers, China Youth Daily reported. In January, the year of the rooster will give



way to the year of the dog, and companies worried about unlucky employees are avoiding them as job candidates, a legislator told the parliament Tuesday. "Workplace discrimination has even reached this ridiculous level," he said. (EXPRESS) **EyeOpeners** | **Page 2**

eyeOpeners



CELEBRATIONS

Don't Start the Year Off With a Bang

Police, sports clubs and even the United Nations have a message to Serbs celebrating the New Year: Don't shoot! Worried about the risk to life and limb from celebratory gunfire, the U.N. Development Program in the country, as well as several sports clubs and the police, have launched a campaign warning residents to refrain from the annual tradition of firing guns into the night sky as a way to celebrate the holiday. "It is illegal and causes accidents or death," said a joint statement issued Wednesday. "Every bullet that is fired up must come down," read the appeal. Celebratory gunfire is also part of weddings and other festivities. (AP)

HUBBUB

Tonight's Top Story: A Fat Cat on a Hill

People with cameras and a news truck with media flocked to the scene in Offutt, Neb., Thursday to see a mountain lion that turned out just to be "a very large tabby," the Bellevue Leader reported. Patrons of numerous businesses had spilled into the parking lots to see the animal, which was spotted on a nearby hill. "We kind of joke, but it's kind of a good thing," said police spokesman Matt Miller. "There's been lots of sightings and it's better to raise a flag. It shows people are looking out for one another." (EXPRESS)

AP

ADOPTION

Love Makes a Family

You've heard the fable of the tortoise and the hare; here's a tale of the tortoise and the hippo. After a year, Owen, a baby hippo, and his foster mother, a giant male Aldabran tortoise, are still together at the Mombasa Haller Park in Mombasa, Kenya. Kenya Wildlife Service rangers rescued the hippo after the Asian tsumani reached the Kenyan shore and separated the calf from its mother. The two have been together ever since. (EXPRESS)

CELL PHONES

Hold On, I Have to Take This Indictment

South Korea will begin sending indictments and other legal notices to people through mobile phones instead of ordinary mail, an official said. The move is designed to save time and money and enhance privacy, said Jun Dae-jin of the Supreme Prosecutors' Office. "We plan to send text and voice messages to people if they want to receive legal notices electronically," Jun said. The change begins next month. (AP)

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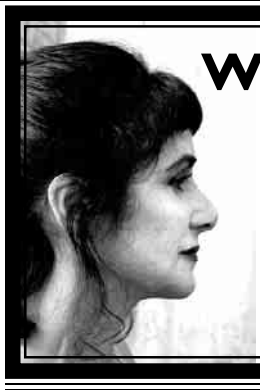

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"If the stars align right, we could actually take back the Senate."

—**Sen. Charles Schumer,** on the Democrats' hopes in the '06 elections

Nation

In Brief

TIM LARSEN/AP

Authorities search for Officer Robert Nguyen along the Hackensack River.

JERSEY CITY, N.J.

River Search Continues For Body of Missing Officer

Jersey City police continued to search Wednesday for an officer who plunged more than 40 feet in his vehicle off an open drawbridge in thick fog Sunday night. The body of Officer Shawn Carson, 40, was found Sunday night. Authorities searched the Hackensack River for Officer Robert Nguyen, 30, who was also in the police vehicle when it fell into the water. (AP)

SEATTLE

Hole in Plane's Fuselage Causes Emergency Landing

A foot-long hole in the fuselage of an Alaska Airlines jet caused the plane to lose cabin pressure, forcing an emergency descent and return to the airport. The incident Wednesday afternoon involved an MD-80 jet en route from Seattle to Burbank, California. The plane landed safely at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, and none of the 140 passengers was hurt. (AP)

ANAHIEM, CALIF.

2,000 Evacuated After Disneyland Hotel Blaze

A 35-foot Christmas tree caught fire early Wednesday in the lobby of the Disneyland Grand Californian Hotel, forcing the evacuation of more than 2,000 guests, officials said. Two had minor injuries. A hotel spokesperson called the source of the fire "electrical in nature." (AP)

"Jack Abramoff liked to slip into dialogue from 'The Godfather' as he led colleagues in Hill conquests."

Read more about the central figure in what could be Congress' biggest scandal in a generation. | **AI**

IN The Washington Post

Grass Fires Kill 5 in Texas, Okla.

Wind-fueled blazes destroy more than 100 homes in 2 states

CROSS PLAINS, TEXAS | By the time the smoke cleared Wednesday, more than 100 homes across wildfire-stricken Texas and Oklahoma lay in ruins and at least five people were dead, including two elderly women trapped in their homes by the flames.

The hardest-hit community during Tuesday's blazes was Cross Plains, a West Texas ranching and oil-and-gas town of 1,000 people some 150 miles from Dallas. Cross Plains also lost about 50 homes and a church after the flames raced through grass dried out by the region's worst drought in 50 years.

Two elderly women there were killed after being trapped in their homes, said Sparky Dean, a spokesman for the Department of Public Safety. And in Callisburg, near the Oklahoma line, another woman apparently fell and broke her hip and could not get out of her home before it was destroyed, firefighters said.

No information was immediately available on the fourth death in Texas. A fifth person was killed in Oklahoma.

Most of the homes destroyed in Cross Plains were modest, working-class houses built during the 1930s and '40s. All together, the grass fires destroyed more than 100 buildings across Texas, including 78 homes, the state emergency management agency said. About 50 homes have been destroyed in Oklahoma, authorities said. SHEILA FLYNN (AP)

MATT SLOCUM/AP

SCORCHED STATE: The burned-out remains of a truck sit in front of a house that is still smoldering from a grass fire in Cross Plains, Texas, Wednesday. The town was hardest hit as the wildfires swept through many parts of Texas and Oklahoma.

Alito Advised Against Appeal in Panther Case

Newly released memos show nominee favored lower court's role

WASHINGTON | Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito recommended against appealing to the high court a ruling that revived a Black Panther Party lawsuit against the government.

Alito, working in the Justice Department at the time, argued that the department could win the case in a lower court.

"None of the legal issues presented by this case seems to warrant Supreme Court review," Alito wrote on Nov. 19, 1981, while he was working for the solicitor general's office. The memo was among another batch of Alito papers released Wednesday by the National Archives.

The Black Panthers' lawsuit accused government officials of conspiring against the militant group and its members for years. A federal judge had thrown out the lawsuit, but the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia reversed that decision. The appeals court ordered the judge to reconsider the case.

Alito

Alito noted that nothing in the trial court was "decided against the government with finality." JESSE J. HOLLAND (AP)

Justices Urged to Hear Padilla Case

WASHINGTON | Lawyers for Jose Padilla, a U.S. citizen held as an "enemy combatant" for nearly four years, want the Supreme Court to resolve how much power a president has while the nation is at war.

Lawyers Donna Newman and Andrew Patel told the high court in papers filed Tuesday that the justices must step in "to preserve the vital checks and balances" on the president. They questioned the government's ability to hold Padilla for four years without charges.

In an another twist to the case, Solicitor General Paul Clement asked the Supreme Court Wednesday to order Padilla's transfer from military to civilian custody immediately. (AP)

Suspected Ex-Nazi Faces Deportation

CLEVELAND | An immigration judge Wednesday ordered John Demjanjuk, a retired autoworker accused of being a Nazi concentration camp guard, deported to his native Ukraine.

Demjanjuk, 85, has been fighting for nearly 30 years to stay in this country. During the long legal battle, he was suspected for a time of being the notoriously brutal guard known as Ivan the Terrible and was nearly executed in Israel.

Chief U.S. Immigration Judge Michael Creppy ruled that there was no evidence to substantiate Demjanjuk's claim that he would be tortured if deported to his homeland.

Demjanjuk can appeal the ruling to the Board of Immigration Appeals within 30 days. (AP)

Nation

2 **Number of mountains** a Kentucky town plans to level to make room for urban expansion. City officials in Pikeville, Ky., population 6,300, say flattening the two hills would add 800 acres for the town to develop.

49 Suspected of Bilking Red Cross

Fraudulent claims drained $200,000 from hurricane fund

FRESNO, CALIF. | The number of people indicted in a scheme that bilked thousands of dollars from a Red Cross fund designated for Hurricane Katrina victims has risen to 49, federal authorities said.

At least 14 suspects worked at a Red Cross call center in Bakersfield and are accused of helping family and friends file false claims for aid money, said Mary Wenger, a spokeswoman for U.S. Attorney McGregor Scott in Sacramento.

Six have pleaded guilty to federal wire fraud charges since the first indictments were announced in October, she said Tuesday.

The fake claims drained at least $200,000 from the fund, with an average payout of about $1,000, Red Cross spokeswoman Devorah Goldburg said. The total could rise as the investigation continues, she said.

The Bakersfield site is the largest of three Red Cross centers set up to handle hurricane calls. Others are in Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Falls Church, Va. Operators provided qualifying victims with a personal identification number they then presented to receive aid funds from Western Union.

The Red Cross contacted the FBI after it performed an audit of the call center and discovered an unusually high number of claims at Western Union outlets in the Bakersfield area.

"It was the Red Cross that found this problem," Jack McGuire, the national group's interim president, said Wednesday on NBC's "Today." "We put into effect these call centers to speed up delivery of support to people that needed it. As part of that, we put into place mechanisms to look for fraud up front and to find fraud after the fact."

None of the indicted employees worked directly for the Red Cross.

Officials of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.-based Spherion, which operates the call center, have said the company didn't have time to run background checks on its 1,200 workers.

The indicted employees were providing PIN numbers to their friends and family who would then go to Western Union to collect the funds. OLIVIA MUNOZ (AP)

STEVE HELBER/AP

New Orleans Police Chief Warren Riley addresses the media on Wednesday.

Police Chief Defends Shooting

New Orleans top cop says man killed by officers had a record

NEW ORLEANS | The knife-wielding man shot to death by police in a daylight confrontation that was caught on videotape had a long arrest record, the police chief said Wednesday.

Anthony Hayes, 38, was shot Monday after allegedly lunging at police with a 3-inch blade.

Part of Hayes' confrontation with 18 officers — though not the shooting itself — was videotaped by at least three bystanders. Hayes is seen waving his arms and brandishing the knife.

Police Superintendent Warren Riley said Hayes had a long record, but he wouldn't give details.

He told reporters he knew nothing directly about Hayes' mental health, only that relatives have told television stations he was schizophrenic.

Two sergeants and one patrol officer fired nine shots after Hayes tried to stab a lieutenant, Riley said. He said he did not have an autopsy report, so he did not know how many bullets hit Hayes.

The incident began when Hayes' credit card was rejected at a drug store, and he punched an employee, cutting open his face.

The first two officers on the scene tried to calm Hayes, who pulled a knife, and 16 more officers came to help, the chief said. CHEVEL JOHNSON (AP)

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Go to our participating sponsors, listed below beginning Friday, December 30, and pick-up an adventure guide. It will provide a map with listings, questions and more details. Adventure Guides will be available at the Clarendon and Courthouse Metro Stops Saturday, December 31.

How do I enter the drawings?

Once you've completed the Adventure, bring your receipts or answers to the specified locations for the chance to enter into the hourly drawings. If you are one of the first 500 to complete the Adventure and entered the drawing, you automatically win a prize! Participants must be present to receive drawing prize.

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MINNESOTA | MILDER TEMPERATURES ARRIVE

JOEY MCLEISTER/AP

ICE BATH: Ryan Bigot stands waist-deep in frigid water trying to help remove a truck that broke through thin ice in Prior Lake, Minn., on Tuesday. At least six vehicles met a similar fate Monday after a warm spell thinned the ice.

Defense Lawyers Challenge Wiretaps

WASHINGTON | Lawyers for an Islamic scholar and a computer programmer want federal judges to determine whether evidence used against their clients was gathered by a secret domestic spying program.

Law professor Jonathan Turley said Wednesday there "seems to be a great likelihood" that Ali al-Timimi, a Northern Virginia Islamic cleric convicted for exhorting followers after the Sept. 11 attacks to wage war against U.S. troops overseas, was "subject to this operation."

Attorney Kenneth Swartz said he wants to know whether any evidence was gathered by the National Security Agency without a warrant and used to convince a secret court to authorize six years of wiretaps of his client, Adham Amin Hassoun.

Hassoun and Jose Padilla were charged last month in a terror plot. TONI LOCY (AP)

4,500 | **The number of** police officers to be deployed in Paris on New Year's Eve, officials report. Authorities are being especially vigilant during the festivities after the recent wave of unrest and rioting around the nation.

World

In Brief

GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP

Israel Shells Part of Border To Stop Militant Rocket Fire

Israeli artillery pounded northern Gaza at the beginning of a new, aggressive Israeli policy to stop Palestinian militants from using the area to fire rockets at Israel by threatening to shoot anyone who approaches the border. The first barrage, after sundown Wednesday, marked the beginning of "Blue Skies," promising to be the biggest military operation since Israel pulled out of Gaza in the summer. (AP)

GRANADA, COLOMBIA

Uribe to Refocus Efforts on Cocaine Trade After Attacks

President Alvaro Uribe on Wednesday vowed to redouble efforts to wipe out cocaine production in southern Colombia to eliminate the source of wealth for leftist rebels who killed 29 soldiers in a decisive attack a day earlier. About 400 rebels with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, used mortar shells, land mines and heavy artillery to attack a camp of 80 soldiers just before daybreak Tuesday, the army said. (AP)

Uribe

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

U.S. Soldier Killed, 2 Others Wounded by Roadside Bomb

A bomb exploded on a mountainous road in eastern Afghanistan, killing one U.S. service member and wounding two others, the military said. The attack occurred as troops were driving in an armored vehicle in Kunar province, a military spokesman, said Wednesday. Provincial Gov. Assadullah Wafa blamed "enemies of Afghanistan" for the attack, a term commonly used to refer to Taliban rebels. (AP)

SHOP TALK: The two Koreas established limited commercial telephone links across their heavily armed border on Wednesday for the first time in their 60 years of division, officials said. (AP)

U.N. Endorses Iraq Election Results

Official backs initial vote tallies, says team found poll to be fair

BAGHDAD, IRAQ | A senior U.N. official said Wednesday that Iraq's parliamentary elections were credible and the results should stand, angering Sunni Arabs who have taken to the streets demanding a new vote.

The U.N. endorsement, which came after opposition groups demanded international intervention, was likely to deflate their calls for the elections to be canceled. It also was likely to move Sunni Arabs and secular Shiites closer to the bargaining table ahead of final results, expected to be announced next week.

Preliminary results, which gave a big lead to the ruling Shiite religious bloc, also indicated that Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Chalabi, a former Washington insider, will not be re-elected to the new 275-member parliament, his office said.

The United Nations official, Craig Jenness, said at a news conference organized by the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq that his U.N.-led international election assistance team found the elections to be fair. Jenness said the number of complaints was less than one for every 7,000 voters.

AL-ARABIYA/AP

Militants released a video of a French man who was recently kidnapped in Iraq.

Also Wednesday, militants released a video of a French engineer kidnapped in Iraq three weeks ago and denounced the "illegal French presence" in the country, the Arab news channel Al-Arabiya reported. The video showed the hostage, identified as Bernard Planche, sitting on a chair with two armed men on either side of him.

Separately, inmates stormed a prison armory in Baghdad, with one grabbing an AK-47 rifle from a guard and firing indiscriminately. They killed eight people, including four guards, before being subdued.

TRICK QUINN (AP)

TOKYO | TRIBUTE TO A KABUKI STAR

ITSUO INOUYE/AP

TREASURED: Women in geisha dress parade in Tokyo Wednesday to pay tribute to beloved Kabuki actor Kotaro Hayashi. Hayashi, known as a national treasure, is considered one of the greatest performers in the 400-year-old Japanese drama.

Ex-German Diplomat Kidnapped

Former envoy and his family snatched by armed men in Yemen

SAN'A, YEMEN | Armed men kidnapped a German diplomat and his family touring the mountains of eastern Yemen on Wednesday and pressed the Yemeni government for the release of jailed members of their tribe, officials in both nations said.

The five missing Germans were identified by Germany's Foreign Ministry as former Deputy Foreign Minister Juergen Chrobog, his wife and three children.

The vacationing family was traveling in a two-car convoy when a group of gunmen surrounded their vehicles, forced them into the kidnappers' cars and sped off, said government officials in Shabwa, the province where the incident occurred. The Yemeni officials spoke on condition of anonymity.

Tribesmen frequently kidnap tourists in an attempt to force concessions from the government in Yemen, a poor, mountainous nation on the southern tip of the Arabian peninsula where state control in outlying areas is shaky. (AP)

Norway Says Sri Lanka Truce at Risk

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA | Norway, which brokered the 2002 cease-fire that halted Sri Lanka's two decades of civil war, said Wednesday that the government and the Tamil Tiger rebels should meet urgently to prevent the country from sliding back into war, as two suspected rebels were shot dead by government soldiers.

Minister of International Development Erik Solheim, the architect of the peace process, said in a statement released in Colombo that increasing violence was putting the truce at risk.

In the latest violence, two men suspected to be Tamil Tigers were shot dead in northern Sri Lanka on Wednesday, the military said.

In an upsurge in violence, 45 soldiers have died in December that the government blames on the rebels, who say the country's ethnic Tamil minority needs a separate homeland in the northeast (AP)

REUTERS

Family of a recently killed Sri Lankan soldier mourn after identifying his body.

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World

IN TUNE: Rock star activist Bob Geldof plans to offer his talents to Britain's Conservative party. New party leader David Cameron said Geldof will advise the group on global poverty.

Beslan Probe Faults Police

Report on school siege says officials ignored orders to boost security

BESLAN, RUSSIA | Police ignored orders to step up security at schools — a directive that could have prevented the Beslan school hostage crisis in which 331 people were killed last year, the head of a parliamentary commission investigating the attack said Wednesday.

When terrorists did seize the school, the operation to free the hostages was "plagued by shortcomings," with police unprepared to deal with the crisis, lawmaker Alexander Torshin said, summing up the results of a parliamentary probe of the September 2004 assault.

The parliamentary report critical of local police sharply contrasted with conclusions from a separate investigation by prosecutors announced one day earlier. Prosecutors said Tuesday that their probe did not reveal any mistakes by authorities in dealing with the siege in the southern Russian town.

But the new conclusions brought no comfort to the residents of Beslan.

"It is all fiction," said Savkuz Dzhusov, who witnessed the events from his nearby apartment. "They will lie again and nobody will be held responsible for the dead children."

More than half those killed were children.

Torshin said Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev and his deputy sent telegrams less than two weeks before the Beslan raid instructing police in North Ossetia to beef up security on the first day of school.

But on Sept. 1, 2004, only a single policewoman was posted outside the school, and she was taken hostage by raiders demanding that Russian troops withdraw from Chechnya. FATIMA TLISOVA (AP)

Shattered youth: Details on the numerous failings by local and regional authorities cited in the latest probe into the deadly Russian school seige | **Today's Post, Page A1**

ESA/AP

The first satellite in Europe's Galileo program takes off Wednesday in Kazakhstan. European officials hope the system will rival the U.S.'s Global Positioning System.

Europe's Galileo to Rival GPS

PARIS | Europe on Wednesday launched the first in a planned network of orbiters expected to make satellite navigation on Earth more precise, wider-ranging and free of U.S. control.

Test satellite Giove A shot skyward from Kazakhstan aboard a Russian Soyuz rocket. Hours later it began transmitting the first test signals in a $4 billion rival to the U.S.'s Global Positioning System.

The American military network has grown around the world in recent years to reach civilian users ranging from commercial airline pilots to lost hikers. But the military retains control, and President Bush last year announced plans for temporarily disabling the network in a national crisis to prevent terrorists from using it.

ESA and European Commission officials also say their system, known as Galileo and developed in cooperation with China, Israel and Ukraine, will be more precise than GPS and will more than double existing coverage to better reach higher latitudes and urban spots where skyscrapers now block signals. ANGELA DOLAND (AP)

Spaniards Trimming The Siesta

MADRID, SPAIN | Who could turn down a two-hour lunch fueled with good wine and the lure of a post-meal siesta?

Spaniards would love to.

Many have schedules chopped in half with extensive breaks, making the work day so long that home is a place they only visit.

Now relief is at hand, at least for civil servants: Government offices are closing earlier and offering flex time under a law that went into effect Tuesday to help Spaniards balance jobs and families.

Many Spanish civil servants work from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., break for lunch, then come back as late as 4:30 p.m. for another three hours. Elsewhere in Europe, most government workers are out of the office by 5 p.m. or 6 p.m., with shorter lunch breaks.

The Spaniards' lengthy lunches are associated with the custom of taking a midday nap, or siesta. But polls suggest that, at least in cities, people live so far from their offices that few have the time to head home for an after-lunch snooze. DANIEL WOOLLS (AP)

2 | **Total number of prairie dogs** recovered alive on Tuesday from a collapsed underground habitat at the Virginia Zoo in Norfolk. Heavy rains caused the collapse last week. Five were found alive on Saturday and digging continued on Wednesday.

Local

STANDOFF | APPARENT ABDUCTION ENDS PEACEFULLY

ROBERT A. REEDER/TWP

SAFE RESOLUTION: Police officers wait outside an apartment building on Annapolis Road in Hyattsville, Md., on Wednesday evening, where a man holed himself up earlier in the day after apparently abducting a D.C. woman from a home in McLean, Va. The suspect surrendered to police around 6:50 p.m. after a five-hour standoff. The woman was released unharmed.

Ballpark Vote Weeks Away

Council won't revisit stadium lease until mid-Jan. at earliest

WASHINGTON | A D.C. Council vote on a baseball stadium lease will not happen until at least mid-January, a top city official said Wednesday.

"We're doing a lot of analysis. We're putting together a lot of alternative options that we can present," said City Administrator Robert C. Bobb.

While Mayor Anthony A. Williams was home ill on Wednesday, Bobb said the mayor was speaking daily with members of the Council and his staff about ways to get a lease agreement approved.

"This needs to work through the Council's legislative calendar, once we present our final proposal," said Bobb. The proposal must be presented to Major League Baseball President Bob DuPuy and the 13 Council members.

Williams had the original lease agreement pulled from consideration by Council last week when it became clear he lacked the seven votes needed for approval. Investment bankers are requiring Council approval of a lease before they will allow the sale of nearly $535 million in bonds to cover construction costs.

Bobb

Among the options being promoted to gain Council support are the sale of development rights for land surrounding the stadium, to help offset cost overruns for the project.

"There are a number of options and alternatives on the table. Development rights is one of many points being discussed," said Bobb, declining to provide specifics.

The Williams administration contends development rights would generate ample revenue and be an economic boon to the city. The mayor wants the 41,000-seat stadium to be the anchor of a new shopping and entertainment district one mile south of the U.S. Capitol.

The agreement between MLB and the District of Columbia government — which led to the relocation of the Montreal Expos — called for conclusion of a lease agreement by Dec. 31. MLB owns the franchise now known as the Washington Nationals and refuses to name new owners until a lease is finalized.

MLB officials also have the right to pursue arbitration to come up with a leasing agreement. Bobb said while he wants negotiations to continue, he would not be surprised if baseball officials exercised the arbitration option. DERRILL HOLLY (AP)

In Brief

WASHINGTON

Auto Club Applauds Virginia In '05 Transportation Report

In a year-end report, AAA Mid-Atlantic says that its No. 1 transportation development for 2005 was Virginia's governor and legislature agreeing to spend about $800 million on transportation improvements in a new appropriations plan. According to the auto club, the worst development in 2005 was high regional gas prices, where some drivers in the District paid $3.38 for a gallon of regular at the pump. (AP)

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

D.C. Man Dies in City's 4th Homicide This Year

A D.C. man was killed in a shooting late Tuesday in Alexandria. Lawrence C. Sims was found in the 800 block of Montgomery Street just after 10 p.m. and was pronounced dead a short time later at a hospital. The shooting, which is Alexandria's fourth homicide in 2005, is still under investigation. (AP)

Va. Lawmakers to Look At New Education Plans

Warner's budget proposes increase in spending on higher ed

RICHMOND, VA. | When the 2006 General Assembly convenes next month, legislators will be asked to increase state support of university-sponsored research, fully fund the higher-education system and weigh the costs of complying with the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

Gov. Mark R. Warner has made the research and development initiative one of his top higher-education priorities, saying that such efforts can boost Virginia's economy and result in medical, agricultural and technological breakthroughs.

Warner has proposed $255 million in his biennial budget to help leverage federal, private and corporate funds to improve facilities and attract top-notch researchers.

For public K-12 education, Warner's proposed $72 billion budget offered an additional $1.5 billion for schools that raises direct state funding to slightly more than $6.6 billion per year over the next two years. ZINIE CHEN SAMPSON (AP)

Md. Considers Ex-Prisoners for Juries

BALTIMORE | A state judiciary committee is asking lawmakers to make it easier for people convicted of crimes to be jurors.

The committee's recommendation is included as part of a set of proposals to revise Maryland's jury laws, which have not been changed in more than 35 years.

Currently, anyone with charges pending or a conviction for a crime that carries a possible fine of at least $500 or greater or a possible sentence of at least six months is barred from serving on a jury, unless he or she is pardoned. (AP)

D.C. to Continue Efforts to Improve Pedestrian Safety

WASHINGTON | District officials are working to reduce the number of pedestrian accidents on the city's streets.

Dan Tangherlini, director of the D.C. Department of Transportation says the city will install even more of the countdown pedestrian signals that began appearing around the city early this year. With 1,200 of the devices already in operation, Tangherlini says that's more than any other jurisdiction.

There are about 12 pedestrian deaths on city streets each year. That's about half the number that occurred yearly in the 1990s.

This month, the District launched a media campaign aimed at promoting traffic safety. That effort will continue until the first of the year. (AP)

NEW YEAR'S TRANSIT: Be aware that area transit services may be running on special or alternate schedules over the New Year's holiday. Check wmata.com for details. (EXPRESS)

The Lotteries

Wednesday, Dec. 28

DISTRICT	
Mid-day Lucky Numbers	6-8-1
Evening Lucky Numbers	6-9-2
Mid-day DC 4	7-0-3-7
Evening DC 4	6-9-6-7
Rolling Cash Five	28-9-23-7-22
Daily 6	20-16-14-23-31-27 Bonus: 11

MARYLAND	
Mid-day Pick 3	2-3-0
Evening Pick 3	3-9-9
Mid-day Pick 4	5-1-1-5
Evening Pick 4	5-2-3-2
Match 5	01-15-18-35-37 Bonus: 13

VIRGINIA	
Mid-day Pick 3 (Wed.)	2-4-7
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.)	6-8-6
Mid-day Pick 4 (Wed.)	9-5-5-7
Evening Pick 4 (Tues.)	9-6-1-1
Mid-day Cash 5 (Wed.)	05-12-21-28-31
Evening Cash 5 (Tues.)	05-12-17-27-33

MULTI-STATE GAMES	
Mega Millions (Tues.)	11-24-27-49-55
Mega Ball	23

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

Money

LAST RESPECTS: Actor Michael Vale, best known for portraying Fred the Baker in Dunkin' Donuts commercials, has died at age 83. Ads featuring Fred, who uttered the trademark "Time to make the doughnuts," ran for 15 years, until Vale retired in 1997.

Delta Pilots OK Another Pay Cut

Atlanta-based carrier plans to trim wages by 14% in cash crunch

ATLANTA | Delta Air Lines Inc. pilots accepted a 14 percent pay cut in a deal their union negotiated with management to help the bankrupt carrier cope with an expected cash crunch.

About 58 percent of the members who voted Wednesday approved the deal, which is the second double-digit pay cut Delta pilots have taken in 13 months.

Delta and the Air Line Pilots Association, which represents the Atlanta-based company's 6,000 pilots, will now try to hammer out a comprehensive agreement by March.

Ultimately, 3,001 pilots voted to slash the average salary of rank-and-file pilots from $170,000 to about $146,000. The pilots also would give up other pilot pay and cost items equal to an additional 1 percent hourly wage reduction.

Before the two sides reached the tentative agreement, the union had threatened to strike if its contract was thrown out.

The vote turned out an unusually high 86 percent of the group's members, said Capt. John Culp, the union's spokesman. The fairly narrow margin, he said, "reflected the pilot group's anger over the concession request." GREG BLUESTEIN (AP)

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Linens	26.52	+2.61	+10.9
HeclaM	4.15	+.34	+8.9
OfficeMax	25.83	+1.63	+6.7
WaterPk	21.93	+1.38	+6.7
CCE Spin n	13.30	+.80	+6.4

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
ExprsJet	8.32	-2.31	-21.7
Terra	5.63	-.30	-5.1
Visteon	6.51	-.35	-5.1
Starret	15.67	-.73	-4.5
TerraNitro	19.47	-.90	-4.4

NASDAQ Stock Market

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
CAS Med n	8.55	+1.80	+26.7
EngyConv	41.30	+7.06	+20.6
AHPC Hld	2.95	+.42	+16.6
AmbasIntl	15.43	+2.07	+15.5
MSGI s	4.37	+.57	+15.0

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
PeopEdu n	4.96	-.74	-13.0
DiedrichC	4.44	-.57	-11.4
ADAM	8.44	-.90	-9.6
Innodata	3.19	-.33	-9.4
Reliv	13.86	-1.43	-9.4

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	7.25	7.25
Fed Funds close	4.25	4.25
3-month	3.88	3.90
2-year	4.36	4.44
10-year	4.34	4.49
30-year	4.54	4.68

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.5828	.5790	.5182
Canadian Dollar	1.1637	1.1741	1.2163
European Euro	.8449	.8452	.7348
Japanese Yen	117.83	117.39	103.03
Mexican Peso	10.7560	10.7350	11.2340
Taiwanese Dollar	33.10	33.13	32.02

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
+18.49	+2.05	+1.63
+0.17	+0.09	+0.13
10796.26	2228.94	1258.17

Bank Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
AustNZ	88.65	+1.05	+9.6
BcoSnCH	13.20	+.03	+6.7
BkofAm	46.27	-.29	-1.5
BkNova g	40.21	+.43	+18.8
Citigrp	48.47	-.18	+.6
DeutschBk	98.09	+.39	+10.2
JPMorgCh	39.91	-.19	+2.3
MitsuUFJ	14.06	+.06	+37.6
RoyalBk g	77.48	+.58	+45.0
TorDBk g	52.85	+.65	+26.8
UBS AG	95.77	+.63	+14.2
US Bancrp	30.32	-.23	-3.2
Wachovia	53.28	-.19	+1.3
WA Mutl	44.18	-.24	+4.5
WellsFrgo	63.15	-.45	+1.6

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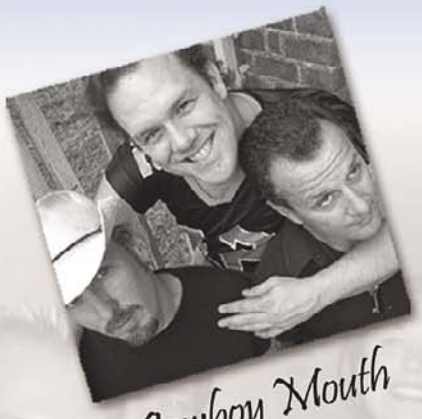
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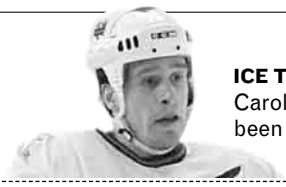


ICE THE DEAL: The Capitals reacquired forward Colin Forbes from the Carolina Hurricanes on Wednesday for forward Stephen Peat. Forbes has been in the AHL and will be assigned to the Capitals' AHL affiliate in Hershey.

Sports

Ravens Say Billick Will Be Coach Next Season

Owner says leadership to remain in place despite losing record

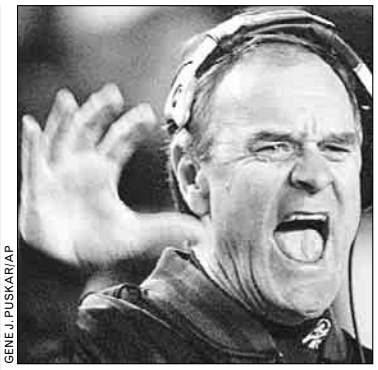
FOOTBALL | Brian Billick will return as coach of the Baltimore Ravens next year, the result of owner Steve Bisciotti's belief that continuity is the best way for the team to end a run of two straight disappointing seasons.

Baltimore missed the playoffs in 2004, and this season the Ravens are assured their third losing record in Billick's seven years as head coach. But the Ravens (6-9) also have won four of their last six, including two in a row over Green Bay and Minnesota by a combined score of 78-26.

During a serious 10-minute meeting with the players and coaching staff Wednesday, Bisciotti ended any speculation surrounding Billick's status for next year.

"We have an ongoing and extensive process to find ways to win. This included a thorough evaluation of Brian Billick," Bisciotti said.

DAVID GINSBURG (AP)



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

If the Ravens lose Sunday, it'll be Billick's worst season as a head coach.

NICK WASS/AP

BENCH WARFARE: Ramsey was demoted after three series into the first game, but now the Redskins have come crawlin' back.

Backup Could Be Back In

Ramsey readies himself as Brunell heals knee

REDSKINS | Unsure who will start at quarterback this weekend, the Washington Redskins staged separate news conferences Wednesday for Mark Brunell and Patrick Ramsey. As Brunell was finishing, Ramsey walked into the room.

"I was ripping on you, Pat," Brunell said, feigning a bit of trash-talking. Ramsey smiled, and, a few minutes later, spoke of two things he's learned from Brunell: patience and humor.

"He's loosened me up a little bit," Ramsey said. "I was pretty uptight before he got here, so I think it's been good for me in a lot of ways."

In April, coach Joe Gibbs said he was counting on Ramsey to be the quarterback "that takes us to the promised land," words that seemed hollow when Ramsey was benched three series into the season opener against Chicago. But if the promised land is the playoffs, Ramsey might fulfill Gibbs' vision if a sprained right knee keeps Brunell off the field for Sunday's regular season finale at Philadelphia.

"I hope to play here as long as I can," Ramsey said, "so I don't try to focus on what's gone badly, but rather just go forward and try to learn from what's happened."

Brunell was essentially limited to throwing passes in warmups on Wednesday, but the hurt knee continues to improve. He is listed as probable on the injury report and sounded as if he would start the crucial game — a victory would put the Redskins (9-6) in the playoffs for the first time since 1999.

"The more time I can get rehabbing this thing, the better off I'll be," Brunell said. "Really, all I can say is, each day it's progressing."

If Brunell doesn't play, Ramsey gets another chance in a season that went way off script after two fumbles and an interception against the Bears. Ramsey disagreed with his benching, but has supported Brunell and has avoided controversy.

Tackle Jon Jansen said Ramsey will always feel the sting of the sudden demotion. "I don't think that's something that you ever get past," he said. JOSEPH WHITE (AP)

TODAY'S TV LINEUP

COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Thursday at 4:30 p.m. on ESPN) It's another bowl pairing good and mediocre teams as 24th-ranked Georgia Tech takes on barely-bowl-eligible Utah in the Emerald Bowl.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL (Thursday at 8 p.m. on ESPN) Jilted, sulking Oregon fans will only be even more jilted and sulking about the snub if the 5th-ranked Ducks beat Oklahoma in the Holiday Bowl.

BASKETBALL (Thursday at 8 p.m. on TNT) Conference leaders clash as Miami takes on the almost-unbeatable Pistons.

BASKETBALL (Thursday at 10:30 p.m. on TNT) This Sonics-Nuggets match-up is for Sonics and Nuggets fans only.

A Leaf Returns to San Diego in Bowl

FOOTBALL | Five years after Ryan Leaf's tantrum-strewn run with the San Diego Chargers flamed out, his little brother, Brady, comes to town Thursday as the backup QB of the No. 6 Oregon Ducks against Oklahoma in the Holiday Bowl.

Like his brother, sophomore Brady Leaf is big — 6-foot-5, 223 pounds — and wears No. 16. But unlike Ryan, Brady seems to have his act together.

"I'm my own person. We have different personalities," he said. (AP)

In Brief

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Emerald Bowl Pits 'Relieved' Utah Against Georgia Tech

Nearly a year after Utah invaded the Bowl Championship Series for the final victory in an amazing unbeaten season, the team is grateful for any bowl game at all. After the Utes' 12-0 run in 2004, capped by a blowout win over Pittsburgh in the Fiesta Bowl, the Utes (6-5) nearly missed the postseason before an overtime win over BYU in the regular-season finale. The Utes now play No. 24 Georgia Tech in the Emerald Bowl on Thursday. "We're relieved by the chance to be here," said center Jesse Boone. (AP)

FOOTBALL

49ers' RB Barlow Out for The Season With Hurt Knee

The San Francisco 49ers signed cornerback Kris Richard and put running back Kevan Barlow on injured reserve Wednesday with a lingering knee injury. Barlow has missed three of the 49ers' last four games, including Saturday's victory at St. Louis, where Maurice Hicks and rookie Frank Gore combined for 177 yards rushing and three touchdowns. (AP)

BASKETBALL

Broken Finger Puts Top NBA Rebounder Out Indefinitely

Denver Nuggets center Marcus Camby will be out indefinitely after breaking his right pinkie finger, an injury that will require surgery. Camby, leading the NBA with 12.9 rebounds per game, will have pins surgically inserted on Thursday, the Nuggets said. A timeline for his return will be set after the surgery. Camby sprained the finger during practice in Cleveland on Dec. 14 and broke it against Golden State on Monday. He missed most of Tuesday night's loss to Philadelphia with the injury. (AP)

DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

Marcus Camby will need to have pins surgically inserted in his pinkie finger.

Sports

PRE-CHAMPS: The Redskins can still win the NFC East, but that didn't stop the NFL from selling NFC East Champion New York Giants gear on its Web site this week, the New York Post reported. "Dewey defeats Truman" gear was not for sale.

Arrington Expects to Leave

Redskins LB says he may retire if the team decides to let him go

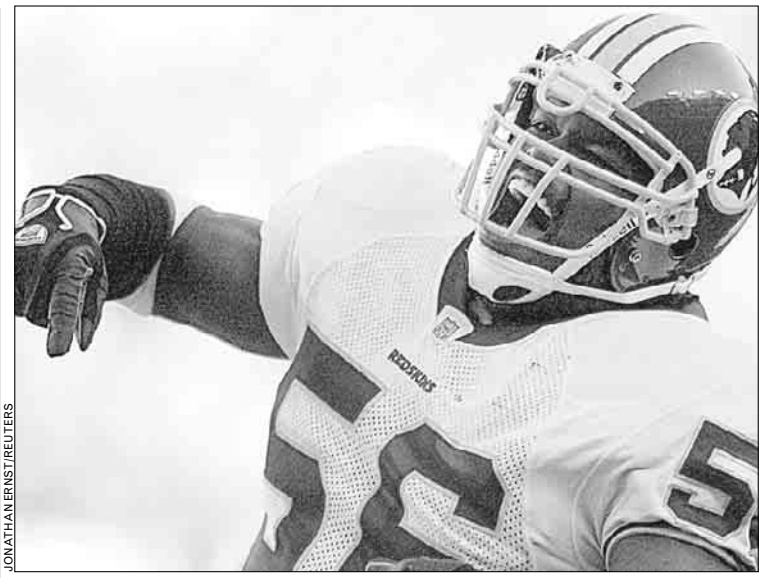
REDSKINS | Washington Redskins coach Joe Gibbs reacted sharply Wednesday to comments by LaVar Arrington in which the three-time Pro Bowl linebacker discussed his expected departure from the team in the offseason.

Arrington told The Washington Times that he expects the Redskins to try to trade or cut him in the coming months. If that happens, Arrington said he might retire.

"It's not a given that I'll continue playing if the Redskins get rid of me," Arrington told the paper. "I don't really want to play for anyone else. ... I've had my time."

Asked for his reaction, Gibbs took exception to any distraction ahead of Sunday's game at Philadelphia. The Redskins will clinch their first playoff berth since 1999 if they win.

"For anybody in this organization ... to be focused on anything other than Philly would be ridiculous," Gibbs said. "We're getting ready to play the most important game that a lot of our players will play."



JONATHAN ERNST/REUTERS

LaVar Arrington has been a frequent bench denizen in the Joe Gibbs era, in part because he hasn't really concerned himself with the coaches' defensive schemes.

Arrington missed most of last season with a knee injury and was used sparingly early this year. He eventually regained his starting job but has often been replaced by Chris Clemons on passing downs. Arrington also missed two games this month with a bruised thigh. He doesn't have a sack, interception or fumble recovery this season.

"When I wasn't playing much, I lost my mojo," Arrington told the paper. JOSEPH WHITE (AP)

Palmeiro Says His Test Results Still a Mystery

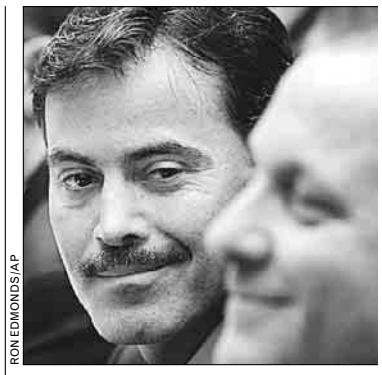
Free agent suggests teammate Tejada gave him tainted vitamins

BASEBALL | Free-agent first baseman Rafael Palmeiro still isn't sure why he tested positive for steroids, he told The New York Times for a story published Wednesday.

The 41-year-old Palmeiro was suspended in August for 10 days by Major League Baseball. His steroid test in May came up positive — just six weeks after he told Congress he had never taken performance-enhancing drugs.

"I wish I could pinpoint exactly what happened," Palmeiro told the newspaper in his first public comments since the season ended. "I would think it was the B-12. I'm not certain of that; I can't prove it."

He has said former Baltimore Orioles teammate Miguel Tejada gave him vitamin B-12 earlier in the season, and suggested it might have been tainted with performance-enhancing drugs.



RON EDMONDS/AP

Palmeiro told Congress earlier this year that he had never used steroids.

"I wish I could have turned in the vial for testing," Palmeiro said. "But when I found out, it was long gone and I couldn't come up with it. If something happened that I'm not aware of, an intentional act by someone else, I don't know. I can't rule out anything."

But Palmeiro also told the Times he blames no one but himself.

"I'm going to take the responsibility," he said. (AP)

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Television

BITCH ALERT: What's better than Janice Dickinson in a reality series? The former top model and "Top Model" judge starring in her own reality series, a project the Oxygen channel has green-lighted. Dickinson will start her own modeling agency as the cameras roll.

More 'Desperate' Than Ever

Creator Marc Cherry sees bad times ahead for his 'Housewives'

ADDICTION | Pour another glass of wine for Bree on "Desperate Housewives." Better yet, just hand over the bottle.

The ABC show's creator, Marc Cherry, says Marcia Cross' character — who became a widow following her husband's poisoning and then watched her flipped-out fiance die of an overdose — isn't reacting well to changes.

"We're starting her descent into alcoholism," Cherry told TV Guide in its Jan. 2 issue. He said there are some alcohol-fueled moments with her fellow housewives where "it gets pretty ugly."

It shouldn't entirely be a surprise for fans of the show, since Cherry said he's been hinting about Bree's future ever since "Desperate Housewives" began a year ago.

"When Bree has tension, she grabs a glass," he said. "Chart it back and you'll see so many moments where she just goes for the wine." (AP)

ABC

CHEERS: Bree, left, reacts to good news in what will become her signature style.

ON TV TONIGHT

SKINNY ON THE INSIDE
Love is blind in the 2005 comedy **SHALLOW HAL** (8 p.m., Fox), starring Jack Black and Gwyneth Paltrow.

COMING INTO HIS OWN
A comic grows in Brooklyn on **EVERYBODY HATES CHRIS** (8 p.m., UPN).

SCARY PEOPLE WHO WATCH — OH, THAT'S THE AUDIENCE
An apocalyptic cult on **CSI** (9 p.m., CBS).

A VERY PATIENT WOMAN
A mother's (Cynthia Nixon, who also guested on "House") mystery ailment on **ER** (10 p.m., NBC).

CULT CHOICE
A neglectful father (Michael Keaton) dies on Christmas Eve, is reincarnated as a creepy-looking snowman and revisits his family in the peculiar 1998 fantasy **JACK FROST** (8 p.m., Family). KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

NBC

SICK OF IT ALL: Cynthia Nixon is becoming quite the professional patient.

12.29.05		6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
LOCAL CHANNELS	WRC 4	News CC		NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	Joey CC		Will & Grace	Will & Grace	(9:59) ER "Alone in a Crowd" CC		News CC	Tonight Show
	WTTG 5	Seinfeld CC	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Seinfeld CC	★★ "Shallow Hal" (2001, Comedy) Gwyneth Paltrow, Jack Black. CC				News		Geraldo at Large	Friends CC
	WJLA 7	News CC	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	ABC Extreme Bloopers CC		Primetime CC		Primetime CC		News CC	(:35) Nightline
	WUSA 9	News CC	CBS News	9News Tonight	Ent. Tonight	Criminal Minds "Broken Mirror"		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		Without a Trace "Malone v. Malone"		News CC	Late Show
	WDCA 20	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Friends CC	Every-Raymond	Hates Chris	Love, Inc. CC	Eve CC	Cuts CC	The Tyra Banks Show CC		Girlfriends CC	Girlfriends CC
	WMPT 22	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Business Rpt.	Business Conn.	MotorWeek (N)	This Old House	Great Performances "Operatunity" CC			Broadway's Best at Pops CC		Hudson River
	WETA 26	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Buildings and Other Roadside		Globe Trekker CC		Globe Trekker CC		Charlie Rose (N) CC	
	WHUT 32	Tony Brown	Tavis Smiley	BBC World News	Moneywise	On Africa		Keith Harrell: Attitude Is Everything		BBC World News	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) CC	
	WBDC 50	Steve Harvey	The Parkers	My Wife and Kids	Bernie Mac	Smallville "Hidden" CC		Supernatural "Skin" CC		Bernie Mac	My Wife and Kids	Sex and the City	Will & Grace
BASIC CABLE	A&E	American Justice		San Francisco Vice CC		The First 48 "Fallen; Texas Burning"		The First 48 CC		The First 48 A serial killer calls 911.		Crossing Jordan "Fire and Ice" CC	
	Animal	The Crocodile Hunter Diaries CC		The Most Extreme Deadly jelly. CC		The Planet's Funniest Animals CC		The Planet's Funniest Animals CC		Animal Cops Detroit CC		The Planet's Funniest Animals CC	
	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live			BET Style	To Be Announced	BET Comedy Awards Pasadena, Calif.					In Living Color	In Living Color
	Bravo	Elton John at Radio City From New York City. CC				Holiday Celebration on Ice From Richmond, Va. CC				★★★ "Chicago" (2002, Musical) Catherine Zeta-Jones, Renée Zellweger.			
	Comedy	Mad TV "100th Episode Milestone"		Crank Yankers	Com.-Presents	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Premium Blend	South Park CC	Drawn Together	Drawn Together	Drawn Together	Drawn Together
	Court	NYPD Blue "Cop in a Bottle" CC		Cops CC	Cops CC	The Investigators		Forensic Files	Body of Evidence	The Investigators		The Investigators "Revenge Ride"	
	Discovery	Cash Cab CC	Pop Nation (N)	Going Tribal CC		Going Tribal CC		Going Tribal "Living With Cannibals"		Going Tribal "African Vision Quest"		Going Tribal The customs of the Adis.	
	DISCH	Multiples & Mayhem CC		Quintuplets! Five babies. CC		Triplets and Quints CC		Quints: The First Year CC		Babies: Special Delivery		Triplets and Quints CC	
	Disney	Sister, Sister	Phil of the Future	That's So Raven	That's So Raven	★★ "The Lizzie McGuire Movie" (2003) Hilary Duff, Adam Lamberg.				Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	That's So Raven	That's So Raven
	E!	Dr. 90210 "Busy As a Li"		E! News (N)	E! News	Home Improvement: The E! True Hollywood Story "Home Improvement."				Plastic Surgery	Gastineau Girls	Howard Stern	Howard Stern
	FX	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Cops "Boston"	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC	That '70s Show	That '70s Show
	HGTV	Wknd Warriors	Landscapers	Curb Appeal	House Hunters	Small Space	reDesign	Divine Design	Designers'	House Hunters	House Hunters	Design on a Dime	My First Place
	Family	7th Heaven "Drunk Like Me" CC		Smallville "Dichotic" CC		★★ "Jack Frost" (1998, Fantasy) Michael Keaton, Kelly Preston. CC				Whose Line?	Whose Line?	The 700 Club CC	
	History	Pacific: The Lost Evidence CC		Modern Marvels: Las Vegas Hotels		Meteors: Fire in the Sky Major recorded impacts in history; remnants. CC				Marvels: Nature Tech: Hurricanes		The Doomsday Clock CC	
	Lifetime	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	"Home for the Holidays" (2005, Drama) Sean Young, Perry King. CC				"Mary Higgins Clark's Loves Music, Loves to Dance" (2001) Patsy Kensit.				Will & Grace	Will & Grace
	MTV	Made "Rapper"		Direct Effect		Punk'd	Punk'd	True Life "I Have OCD"		True Life "I'm a Gun Owner" (N)		R. Wrld Chal.	R. Wrld Chal.
	NICK	All Grown Up	Danny Phantom	Fairly Oddparents	Jimmy Neutron	SpongeBob	ChalkZone CC	Full House CC	Fresh Prince	The Cosby Show	The Cosby Show	The Cosby Show	The Cosby Show
	SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 Osiris goes to war.		★ "Wishmaster 3: Beyond the Gates of Hell" (2001, Horror) A.J. Cook. CC				★ "Wishmaster: The Prophecy Fulfilled" (2002, Horror) John Novak. CC				★ "Devil's Prey" (2001) CC	
	SPIKE	★★ "The World Is Not Enough" (1999, Action) Pierce Brosnan, Sophie Marceau, Robert Carlyle.						★★★ "The Spy Who Loved Me" (1977, Adventure) Roger Moore, Barbara Bach, Curt Jurgens.					
	TBS	Seinfeld CC	Seinfeld CC	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Friends CC	Friends CC	★★ "Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls" (1995, Comedy) Jim Carrey. CC				(:10) "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective"	
	TLC	Martha Baby shower; Jennifer Garner.		Sports Disasters CC		Sports Disasters "Wrecks and Riots"		Sports Disasters 3 CC		Sports Disasters CC		Sports Disasters "Wrecks and Riots"	
	TNT	Charmed "Charmed Again" CC		Law & Order "Custody"		NBA Basketball Miami Heat at Detroit Pistons. (Live) CC					NBA Basketball Seattle Sonics at Denver Nuggets. CC		
	USA	(5:00) ★★ "Major Payne" (1995) CC		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC	
	VHI	Celebrity Fit Club	Celebrity Fit Club			Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	My Fair Brady
SPAN.	TELEM	Sala de Parejas	Noti-Telemndo	La Tormenta		El Cuerpo del Deseo		Corazón Partido	Decisiones	Decisiones		Noti-Telemndo	Titulares y Mas
	UNIV	¡Que Locura!	Noticiero Univ	Piel de Otoño Mujeres valientes.		Contra Viento y Marea		Alborada		Aquí y Ahora		Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.
SPORTS	ESPN	(4:30) College Football Emerald Bowl -- Georgia Tech vs. Utah. (Live) CC				College Football Pacific Life Holiday Bowl -- Oklahoma vs. Oregon. From San Diego. (Live) CC							SportsCenter
	ESPN2	SportsCenter (Live) CC			College Basketball New Orleans at Kansas. (Live) CC				★★ "CodeBreakers" (2005, Docudrama) Scott Glenn, Jeff Roop. CC				Chopper Nation
	CSN	Fant. Football	SportsNite CC	Tennis Pam Shriver Challenge. From Baltimore.					Pro View	SportsNite (Live) CC		Football Thurs.	Best-Sports
NEWS	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight CC		The Situation Room		Paula Zahn Now CC		Larry King Live CC		Anderson Cooper 360 CC			
	FNC	Special Report (Live) CC		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor (Live) CC		Hannity & Colmes (Live) CC		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor	
	MSNBC	The Abrams Report		Hardball CC		Countdown With Keith Olbermann		Rita Cosby Live & Direct		Scarborough Country		The Situation With Tucker Carlson	
MOVIES	AMC	★★ "Death Hunt" (1981, Adventure) Charles Bronson, Lee Marvin. 'R' CC				★★★ "Death Wish" (1974, Crime Drama) Charles Bronson, Hope Lange. 'R'				★ "Death Wish II" (1982, Drama) Charles Bronson. 'R'			(:45) Death Hunt
	TCM	Dr. Strangelove	★★★★ "Paths of Glory" (1957) Kirk Douglas. 'NR' CC			★★★ "The Guns of Navarone" (1961) Gregory Peck. Allied soldiers are assigned to destroy Nazi weapons. 'NR'						★★★★ "The Great Escape" (1963)	
	HBO	U.S. Women's Soccer Team		Real Sports CC		Inside the NFL CC		Rome "Caesarion" CC		Rome "Utica" CC		Cathouse: The Series CC	
	MAX	(5:00) ★★★★ "L.A. Confidential"				(:15) ★★ "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" (1997, Drama) Kevin Spacey, John Cusack. 'R' CC				★★★ "Assault on Precinct 13" (2005, Action) Ethan Hawke. 'R' CC			
	SHOW	(5:15) "The United States of Leland"		Sleeper Cell	★★ "The Boys of 2nd Street Park" (2003) 'R' CC			★★★ "Rikers High" (2005) iTV. 'NR' CC			(:45) SHO Me 1st	The L Word (iTV) Tina moves home.	
	TMC	Stealing Time 'R'	(:25) ★ "Ski Patrol" (1990, Comedy) Roger Rose. 'PG'			★★ "Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star" (2003) 'PG-13'		(:40) ★★ "Jeepers Creepers 2" (2003, Horror) Ray Wise. 'R' CC					(:25) Out of Time
	STARZ!	Confessions	(:40) ★★ "The Alamo" (2004) Dennis Quaid. Outnumbered Texans fight to secede from Mexico.					★★★ "Hitch" (2005, Romance-Comedy) Will Smith. 'PG-13' CC				(:05) ★★ "Con Air" (1997) 'R' CC	
	ENCORE	(:15) ★★ "Captain Ron" (1992, Comedy) Kurt Russell. 'PG-13' CC				★★★ "Kill Bill: Vol. 2" (2004, Action) Uma Thurman, David Carradine. 'R' CC					★★★ "Dawn of the Dead" (2004) Sarah Polley. 'R' CC		

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Requirements Include:
- Graduation from an accredited school of nursing
- Must have a current Maryland Registered Nurse License
- Three years of recent experience in Occupational Health Nursing
- CPR Certification
- Excellent judgment
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- Ability to work under pressure
- Certification as an audiometric and spirometry technician is desired

Responsibilities Include:
- Providing on-site nursing services to employees
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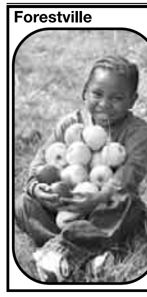

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$99 Security Deposit!*
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2 blocks to West Hyattsville Metro
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*With apprvd credit, restrictions apply

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IF YOU APPLY BY 1/1/05
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301-685-5168

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Rockv/ N Beth—$520
1 furn BR wk bus shp
SFH shr ba ktch catv DSL w/d 301-881-2044

SIL SPG—Shr condo. Bedrms/Master BR/Bsmt avail. $575-$1000 incl utilities, phone, & cable. Nr Metro. 571-643-9226

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VIENNA—TH to shr, pvt rm. w/BA, garage/pkng, at Metro. No smkg/pets, $700 incl utl. 703-660-8986

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New Job Challenge #3

REMEMBERING NAMES

Get Mega Jobs on Sunday, January 8, in The Washington Post. It's the biggest Jobs section of the year, with thousands of job listings from the area's most prominent employers, including the ones below. Whether you're actively looking, or just have your eye out, there's no better resource for Washington area jobs. So pick it up this Sunday—also available in the Early Sunday Edition available Saturday—and let Mega Jobs make finding the job the easiest part of the new job challenge.

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of the new job is finding it.
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The Washington Post
The local expert on local jobs

Look out

TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

INSIDE

How to wear a hat, without hat-head | 19

Blog Log: Tsk, tsk for Tori Spelling | 21

Sly vs. Shoes: Stallone keeps mag's title | 22

Downsizing

College contest asks students to show off skills at cell cinema

Bigger houses, bigger cars, bigger portions at the fast food joint. In America, the guiding maxim is to think big. Really big.

An Ithaca College dean is encouraging students to instead think small. And she's offering a $5,000 prize to do it.

The school has invited high school and college students across America to submit a 30-second movie shot entirely with a cell phone.

It may come off like a gimmick, but dean Dianne Lynch has no doubts about the contest's academic value.

In today's media marketplace — where cell phones can take pictures, play music and games and connect to Web sites — it's all about thinking small and mobile.

"Historically, we've always had students thinking bigger and bigger. It's gone from radio to television to the movie screen, to the era of blockbuster films. All of a sudden, things have reversed and everything is getting smaller," said Lynch.

The submission deadline is Jan. 10. A winner will be chosen from among 10 finalists and announced online Jan. 30.

The idea came to Lynch last year while she was in New York attending an industry conference. One of the topics was the future of mobile delivery of content.

Disasters like Hurricane Katrina and the July bombings in London showed what cell phone cameras are capable of, as everyday people used them to provide TV stations and the Internet with vivid images of the devastation.

There are an estimated 2 billion mobile phone subscribers worldwide and 194.5 million in the United States, according to the Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association.

About 130 million Americans own cell phones with camera capabilities and approximately half of those camera phones also shoot video, said Roger Entner, an analyst with Ovum, a technology consulting firm.

This fall, MTV launched "Head and Body," a comedy series of eight programs created exclusively for cell phone users. Last year, Zoie Films, a producer of independent films and festivals, ran what it billed as the world's first cell-phone film festival.

And in October, the Forum des Images in Paris held its first Pocket Film Festival, which included everything from 30-second shorts to mini-soap operas to full-length features.

"It's exciting. We were discussing this last year in film club," said Sasha Stefanova, an Ithaca College junior from Kazanlak, Bulgaria, who is majoring in photography and visual arts. As soon as she heard about Lynch's contest, "I went immediately to the dean's office and said, 'How can I enter?' I love old films, and old-school techniques. The challenge here is how to get a meaningful idea into such an everyday tool."

Stefanova is still pondering her entry. She is traveling home to Bulgaria for the holidays and plans to shoot scenes during her travels.

"It will be about my generation's mobility and the falling down of borders," she said.

Sudhanshu Saria is a senior in filmmaking and likes the novel challenges presented by working with a cell phone and a 1- to 2-inch screen.

"There are definitely visual limitations," Saria said. WILLIAM KATES (AP)

KEVIN RIVOLI/AP

PHONE FLICK: Saria said he hopes people don't see the contest as just a gimmick.

Mobile Movies

> "I hope people studying film will take it as my generation's chance to provide a new language, a new way of thinking.
>
> SUDHANSHU SARIA
> SENIOR AT ITHACA COLLEGE

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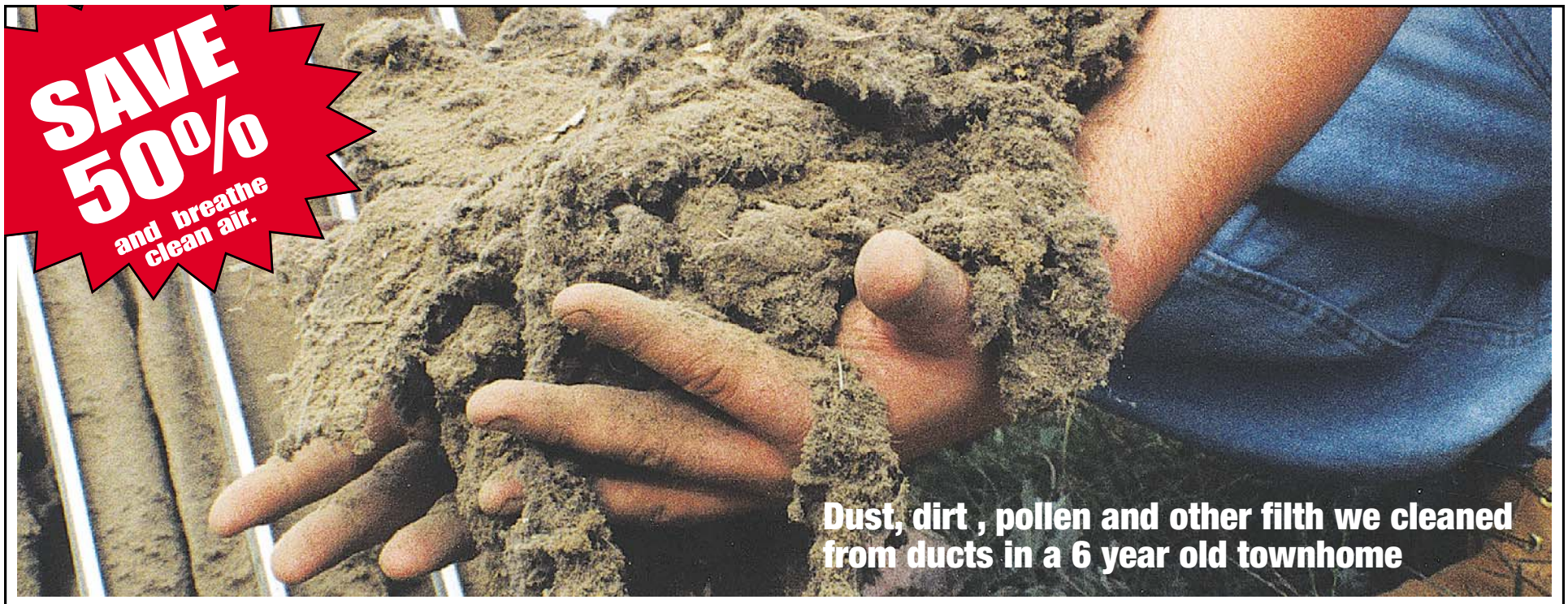
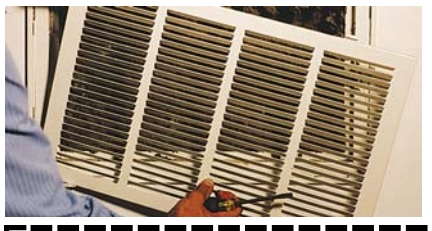


Don't Breathe Filth

Are you breathing polluted indoor air?



FACT: **Children and the elderly are especially affected by polluted indoor air.** *(Department of Consumer Affairs)*

FACT: **The levels of hazardous pollutants in indoor air has been found to be up to 70 times greater than in outdoor air.** *(EPA)*

FACT: **50% of all illnesses are caused by polluted indoor air.** *(American College of Allergists)*

FACT: **One out of six people who suffer from allergies do so because of the direct relationship to fungi and bacteria in air duct systems.** *(Total Health Magazine)*

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Proper Toppers

Hats are as much a part of a winter survival kit as boots or gloves, but those latter pieces don't really have side effects. Hats do. Hat hair can come at you from any angle and attack any style and hair type. Just ask anyone who's taken off her hat to find every strand of hair on her head going in a different direction.

Hairstylist Marc Anthony is Canadian, which gives him an instant pedigree when it comes to knowledge about cold-weather hair. He says cold-weather hair is entirely different from rest-of-the-year hair.

"Essentially, static is caused by dryness," says Anthony. We all know that rubbing a balloon on your hair will make your hair stand up — that's just static electricity. Have you ever tried that on damp hair? It doesn't work."

Anthony suggests using a moisturizer, particularly a leave-in product. Apply a small amount to towel-dried hair before blow-drying.

Style, both of your hair and your hat, also can cause "hat head."

Someone with straight hair should consider a knit cap, with the hair pulled into two loose braids right after it's dried. Secure the braids loosely, so there will be no kinks when you take them out.

When you get to your destination, take the hat off and untwist the braids. You'll be left with a loose wave. Anthony suggests touching up the top with a finishing spray or gloss.

With an aviator cap — which is among the warmest styles because of its ear flaps — you can have either pin-straight or slightly bouncy hair.

If you want a straight look, use a straightening cream as you blow-dry; if you want a gentle curl, use a curl lotion. Either way, your hair should be completely dry when you first put the hat on, Anthony says.

Slide the cap on gently without having the hair move too much as you're putting it on. When you take the hat off, comb straight hair or run fingers through curly hair. You might not even need gloss or finishing spray.

If you like the look of a beret, go with curly hair, Anthony says, gently pulling the hat on over styled hair. With your fingertips, slide the hair up and the root under the beret just a little bit to give added lift at the crown.

> **Someone with straight hair should consider a knit cap, with the hair pulled into two loose braids right after it's dried.**

A wrapped scarf also works for curls, especially if it's stormy and windy outside, because it can accommodate big curls.

Anthony recommends using both a curl lotion and curl booster on damp hair and then using the diffuser on your blow-dryer to get the shape of the curl that you want. Once that's achieved, gently drape the scarf over your curls and lightly wrap around your neck, which will hold your hair in place.

HATS OFF: There are hair solutions for every hat head, whatever your cap of choice is.

A fedora requires more upfront styling work. Anthony suggests a low-slung bow at the nape of the neck. It's a bit more work, but the upside is the hat doesn't interfere with the style so there's nothing to do when you take the hat off.

To create the bun, either roll the ends of fully dried hair and pin them in at the nape so that the hair resembles an old-fashioned bob. The hat protects the curl at the bottom from becoming stringy. Or make a low ponytail, then twist until it naturally forms a bun. Secure with a few bobby pins.

If all else fails, you can run a dryer sheet over your head before donning your cap and keep some in your purse for emergencies; they ward off static. SAMANTHA CRITCHELL (AP)

Beauty

Apple-Cheeked Chic

It's possible that nothing is harder to buy than a good drugstore blush. Go too pink and you look like a Precious Moments figurine, go too bronze and you look dirty, go too red and you look like the victim of an unfortunate rash. Loreal's new **TRUE MATCH SUPER-BLENDABLE BLUSH** ($10) combats the double whammy of mismatched colors and clown-inspired application. The blush blends very nicely, but the best element is that the colors are grouped into "warm" and "cool" tones, meaning (assuming you know your undertones) the pink that looks rosy in the compact won't wash you out when it's on your face. KRISTEN PAGE-KIRBY (EXPRESS)

Beauty

Pass This Bar

In a triumph of cosmetic engineering, bubble bath and soap have become one! Only not really. The **RAMY BATH-A-RAMA PORTABLE BUBBLE BATH** ($12, ramybeautytherapy.com) looks like an ordinary bar of soap (and functions like one, although with much more lather). It claims to make any bath bubblelicious — all you have to do is drop it into running water. Unfortunately, the only thing it will turn your tub into is a Tub of Lies, as the bar simply makes your bath water soapy, with an opaque film rather than fun bubbles. K.P.K.

Look out | Voices

Marc Fisher | Stadium Skinny

Post Metro columnist **MARC FISHER** was online Dec. 22 and discussed the latest on the D.C. baseball stadium deal | **washingtonpost.com/liveonline**

What can Mayor Williams do to salvage the damage that Marion Barry has done to the baseball stadium deal? And why would anyone be negotiating with Barry anyway?

No one is negotiating with Marion Barry. I love that Barry has figured out a way to get back into the limelight, and I love it when he uses his towering political skills to belittle those of lesser talents, like the current mayor.

But let's not all fall for the Mayor for Life's bluster: Not a soul in Major League Baseball is going to negotiate the stadium deal with the councilman from Ward 8, and the only prospective owners who may be talking to Barry are those who know they are pretty well out of the running.

But can Barry cause havoc and gum up the works? Absolutely. Can he embarrass the mayor and his council colleagues? Well, they are arguably beyond embarrassment, but I have confidence that Barry can make it happen nonetheless.

Why do you think the mayor refrains from blasting Marion Barry for his latest shenanigans?

The mayor decided long ago not to try to beat Barry at his own game — a wise decision, as Barry would win that confrontation every time. Williams knows his political limitations and uses them to his own advantage; he tries to manage Barry with a combination of humor, tolerance and behind-the-scenes efforts to find common ground. It doesn't work too well, but it's better than the alternative.

The Nationals are leaving D.C.; get used to it. MLB won't back down because, if they do, the next time a team threatens to leave home unless they get a new stadium, or demands a new stadium as a condition for moving to a new city, those cities won't take the threat seriously. D.C. will wave goodbye and pay a penalty rather than submit to the disrespect dished out by white, rich, out-of-town suburbanites (MLB).

I like your argument and from a purely emotional sense, I would endorse it, but I can't because I've heard from too many baseball people that they have come to believe this is a very valuable market that will make them even richer, and for the lords of baseball, that comes first. So until you find me the market where baseball would get $450 million and a free stadium for the Nats, they're staying here.

It was my understanding that no stadium has ever made enough money to do anything but break even — even with new businesses. Isn't relying on the stadium to become some sort of "miracle" a little optimistic, even for you?

Nobody expects the stadium to make money. The idea is that the stadium would generate enough development around it to create a new neighborhood of downtown, and we already see more than enough developer investment in those blocks to know that that indeed will happen. The stadium's job then is to bring in big crowds 81 days a year, which the Nats last summer proved will be no problem.

Why is The Washington Post moving your column?

The column was moved to make way for the new index that now appears on the left side of the Metro page. Every section of the paper except the A Section now has an index on its front. The idea is to make the paper more accessible.

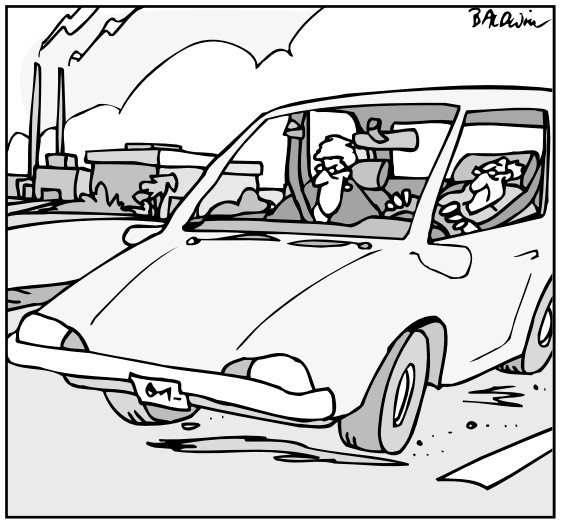
➜ Today on Live Online

LiveOnline discussions are not being held this week due to the holidays. Discussions will resume Tuesday, Jan. 3.

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

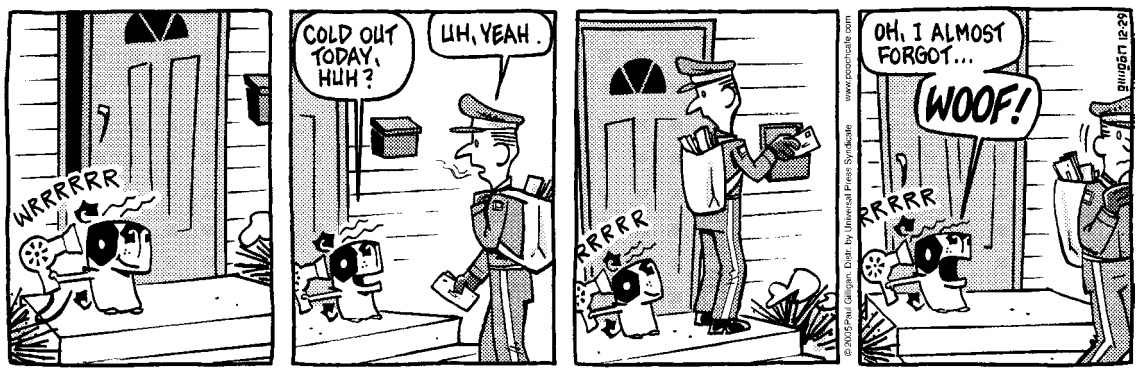
Bizarro | *Dan Piraro*

Cornered | *Mike Baldwin*



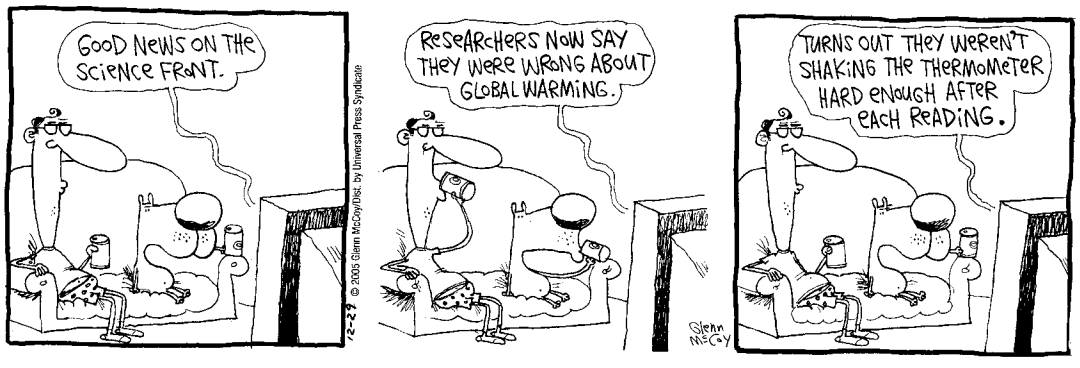
Lost, but too embarrassed to stop and ask for directions. Another sufferer of directile dysfunction.

Pooch Cafe | *Paul Gilligan*



Pearls Before Swine | *Stephan Pastis*

The Duplex | *Glenn McCoy*



Look out

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"I have withdrawal migraines already, but I don't actually believe that this will be allowed to occur."

ARTILOOP.BLOGSPOT.COM RELAYS NEWS OF A PREDICTED WORLDWIDE COFFEE SHORTAGE IN 2007 AND FINDS IT HARD TO BELIEVE THAT COMMODITIES AUTHORITIES AND OTHER OFFICIALS WOULD EVER ALLOW JAVA JUNKIES TO GO WITHOUT EASY ACCESS TO COFFEE.

THE Blog LOG

NEW YEARS ILLUSIONS

"The networks have always played tricks on the viewers. Why bother with one lousy Photoshop application?"

EUGENEDAVID.BLOGSPOT.COM ON ABC'S USE OF AN IMAGE OF DICK CLARK TAKEN BEFORE HIS STROKE FOR ADS PROMOTING "NEW YEARS ROCKIN' EVE."

DEADLY FORCE

"I really think if I were that man, and you shot me in the knee, I'd be pretty much incapacitated ..."

KSTREETBLUES.BLOGSPOT.COM ON WHETHER NEW ORLEANS POLICE NEEDED LETHAL FORCE TO STOP A MAN WITH A KNIFE.

POISON PEN

"If your claim to fame is being the friend of some guy who banged Paris Hilton, the only thing you should worry about is sitting beside him in the hot tub."

THESUPERFICIAL.COM QUESTIONS WHY BRIAN QUINTANA, A FRIEND OF EX-PARIS HILTON BOYFRIEND STAVROS NIARCHOS, SENT A CEASE-AND-DESIST LETTER TO HILTON TO STOP HER FROM ALLEGEDLY TRASH TALKING ABOUT HIM.

RUSH TO THE CHAPEL

"Why, exactly, [do] Dean and Tori feel they must rush into matrimony — an act obviously neither of them has mastered — after a few weeks of dating and so soon after getting out of previous relationships?"

STARSUCK.COM PREDICTS THE LIKELIHOOD OF DIVORCE #2 FOR ACTORS DEAN MCDERMOTT AND TORI SPELLING.

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You'll score points with a friend or loved one simply by following your instincts and doing something at exactly the right time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Your charm and magnetism will serve you well, but when it comes to giving orders you must be subtle, tactful and always willing to listen.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) A Virgo or Libra native holds the key, and you must be willing to ask for the assistance you require. Someone is waiting to help.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Are you really in love, or are you just going through the motions? Examine your own motives, and get in touch with your heart.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Despite your warnings, someone you live with or work with is likely to make a decision that causes problems for you. Remain calm.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Don't get bogged down with details, but try to take in the big picture before making any major decisions. Open your mind a bit more.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) It's a good day to come home again — whether literally or figuratively. The odds are in your favor when it comes to an old friendship.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Though you feel you're out for blood, you were best to take a quieter, more subtle and passive approach. No need to be combative.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) While others may be enduring some hard times, you may be able to enjoy riding a new wave of success right now. Count your blessings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You can persuade even the most stubborn listener that your point of view is truly the more beneficial. Others are likely to look to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You may need help with the preliminaries, but when the time comes for you to be on your own in the spotlight, you will shine.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Don't ask for more than you are expecting to receive, and you must be realistic at all times. Self-image may become inflated.

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5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

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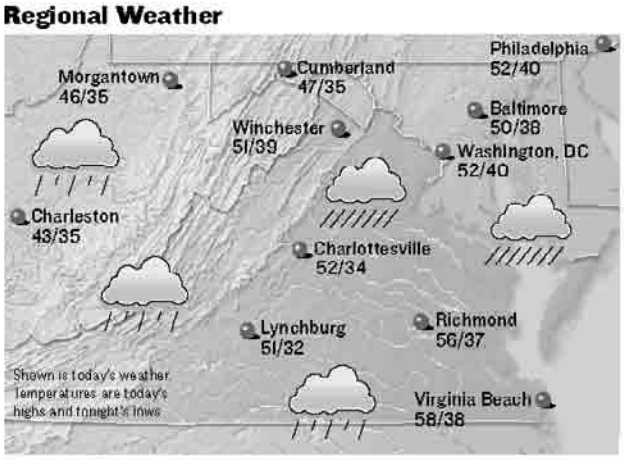


Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2005

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Wed.

Temperature

High	51°
Low	33°
Normal high	44°
Normal low	29°
Average humidity	69%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	2.99"
Normal month to date	2.75"
Year to date	44.03"
Last year to date	42.49"
Normal year to date	39.05"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

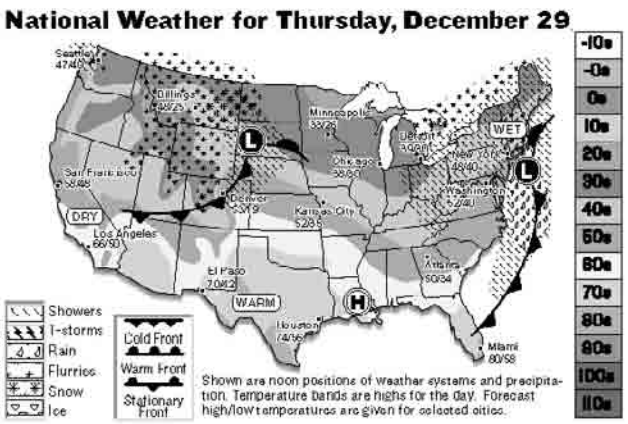
D.C. Metro: Today, mostly cloudy, morning rain and fog, breezy later. High 52. Wind northwest 8-16 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy, windy. Low 40.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	7:26 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:54 p.m.
Moonrise today	6:09 a.m.
Moonset today	3:11 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Dec 30	Jan 6	Jan 14	Jan 22

National Weather for Thursday, December 29



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.

National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	50/34/pc	57/47/s
Boston	48/40/r	48/32/pc
Chicago	38/30/c	40/30/r
Dallas	73/49/s	71/40/pc
Denver	53/19/r	45/22/pc
Honolulu	83/66/s	82/68/s
Los Angeles	66/50/pc	66/52/c
Miami	80/58/sh	76/63/s
New York City	49/40/r	50/36/pc
Orlando	72/48/sh	72/50/s
Seattle	47/40/sh	49/40/r

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	33/28/sf	34/30/sn
Athens	55/53/sh	57/53/r
Berlin	26/21/sn	24/17/pc
Buenos Aires	91/72/s	85/70/pc
Calgary	33/16/sf	36/14/pc
Dublin	43/37/r	45/38/r
Geneva	21/14/sf	31/30/pc
Moscow	28/28/sn	33/28/i
Rome	46/39/sh	45/38/pc
Sydney	84/66/s	82/66/s
Tokyo	48/36/s	48/34/s

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

Look out | People

CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP

Chris lost Katie to a higher bidder.

UNINTRUSIVE

Scientology Ninjas Smile

CHRIS KLEIN says he won't be sending ex-fiancee **KATIE HOLMES** a gift or a card after her baby is born. "Her and my relationship is a time in the past," he said in a recent interview. "And it's a time that I'll always look back on in fondness, but ... she has a separate life and I have a separate life. And it's better that we keep it that way." (AP)

UPDATE!!!

Non-Incident Even More Boring Than Expected!!!

Officials now say it was wear and tear, and not a collision with a bird, that damaged the windshield of **OPRAH WINFREY**'s private jet and forced it to return to the Santa Barbara, Calif., airport. "There was no bird involved, but the pilot did tell my captain that he felt it was a fatigue thing with the glass," said a fire department spokesman. (AP)

FETISHES

Landmark Ruling

SYLVESTER STALLONE can keep his magazine, Sly, on newsstands despite the complaints of an Internet magazine with the same name that a judge suggested was a shoe fetish publication. New York judge Richard Casey said the actor could continue to produce the lifestyle and fitness magazine for middle-age men. "There is a little difference between shoe fetish and Mr. Sylvester Stallone," Casey said Tuesday. Despite the legal victory, it was unclear how long Stallone's magazine would last. The current issue was the last of four scheduled to be published before the magazine was to be evaluated to determine its future. (AP)

REUTERS

> "I contemplate the task with mingled feelings of excitement and dread, because I can't wait to get started."
>
> J.K. ROWLING FACES THE TASK OF WRITING THE SEVENTH AND LAST HARRY POTTER NOVEL.

EMPLOYMENT

Out-of-Work Oscar Winner Lands Law Enforcement Job

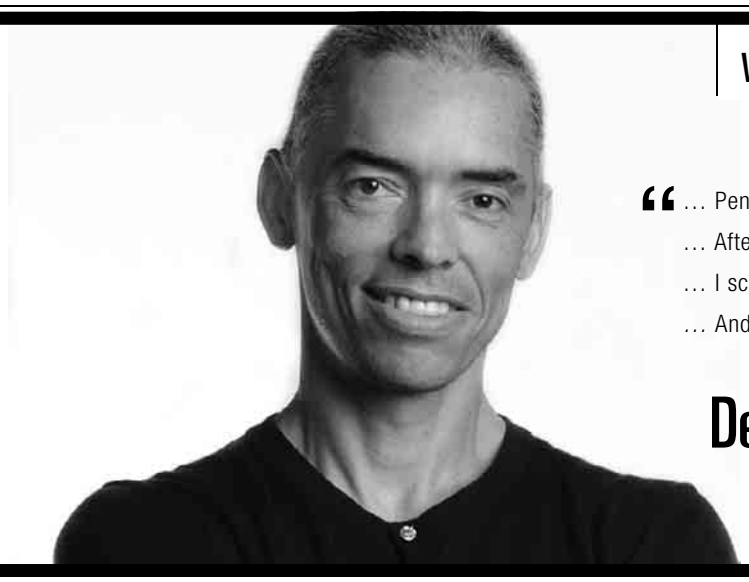
MIRA SORVINO is a second-generation honorary deputy sheriff. Her father, actor Paul Sorvino, is a longtime friend of Lackawanna County, Pa., Sheriff John Szymanski, who had sworn in the elder Sorvino as an honorary deputy years ago. "I've got a picture of me, as a 14-year-old, when he was sworn in," the actress said. On Tuesday, Szymanski administered the oath to Sorvino, who was there with her husband, Chris Backus; their 1-year-old daughter, Mattea Angel; and other family members. (AP)

CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP

STOP TALKING

Sienna Still Marveling At Intricacies of Fame

SIENNA MILLER says the biggest lesson she's learned this year is "hold your cards close to your vest." "I've got a huge mouth, especially when it comes to my business," the actress tells Life magazine in its Dec. 30 issue. "But I've realized that if you start talking about things, you open up a floodgate." "I find it odd that people ask me things like, 'Why did you take [Jude Law] back?' I don't regret anything," she said. Miller stars in "Casanova," which opened Dec. 25. (AP)



WHO | WHAT | WHERE | WHEN | WHY

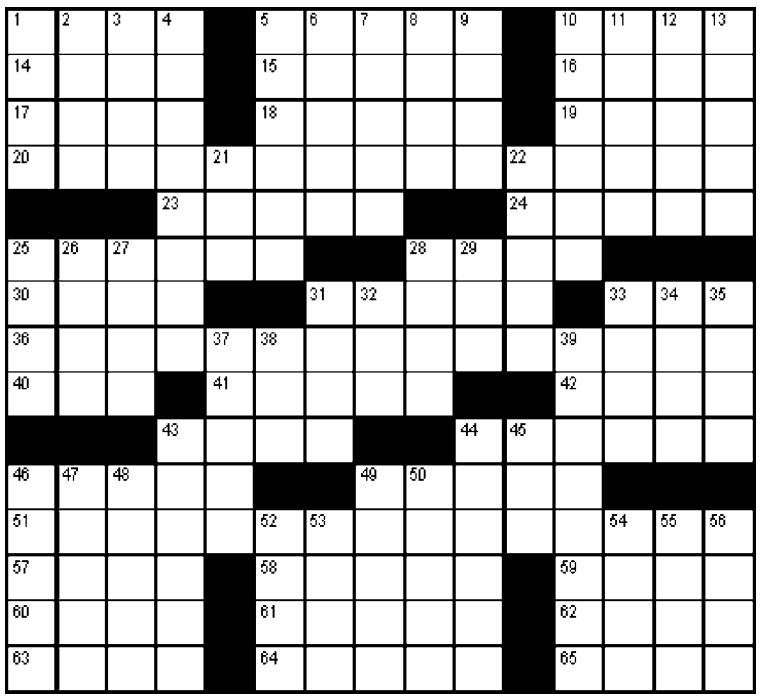
"... Penguins, we need to talk ...
... After a while, you even start doubting the scenery ...
... I scribbled the word "whoa" five times into my notebook ...
... And I haven't even mentioned alien probing ..."

Desson Thomson | Film Critic
Fridays in Style and Weekend
The Washington Post

N225 5x3

LOOK out

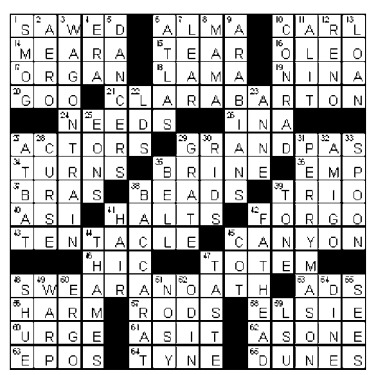
On Broadway | *Edited by Timothy E. Parker*



ACROSS
1 1965 hit for The Impressions
5 Kind of energy or flare
10 Moppets
14 Use a cleaver, maybe
15 Papal vestment
16 Tolstoy hero
17 Airplane staff
18 Social class
19 Poi source
20 Elvis Presley, e.g.
23 Fencers' swords
24 Annoyances
25 Rudder attachment
28 "Amazin'" team
30 45th of 50
31 Hindu teacher
33 George's collaborator
36 Director's place
40 If you're human, you'll do it
41 Some cookie favorites
42 Questionnaire box, perhaps
43 ___ Mawr
44 Fricker of "My Left Foot"
46 Walk like a rooster
49 Burnish
51 Entertainment maxim
57 Hasten
58 Eye drops?
59 Linguistic prefix
60 Shelterward
61 Right to the point
62 Last letters, in Britain
63 Hotel no-nos, often
64 Decided on
65 To be, to Brutus

DOWN
1 Spot for a keystone
2 Oscar winner Sorvino
3 For, how or what ending
4 Gandhi's seat
5 Football, outside the U.S.
6 Address an audience
7 Makes it from start to finish
8 Choir member
9 Mariner's peril
10 Lordly ranks
11 Not perfect circles
12 Pack to the future?
13 Covers with a blanket?
21 Do an impression of
22 Kind of nerve
25 Toothpaste holder
26 Road for Caesar
27 "The Wizard of Oz" actor
28 West and Jemison
29 Typesetter's units
31 British firearm
32 "___ goes there?"
33 Let ___ a secret
34 Rip apart
35 Not docked
37 Civil War participant
38 On the wagon
39 Invigorate
43 Shrubbery
44 Domineered
45 Boring routine
46 Subway train convenience
47 Town in Greenland
48 Like a VCR after a power outage
49 TV's Agent 86
50 Invoke misfortune
52 Number after sette
53 Blubber
54 Anonymous people
55 2:1, e.g.
56 Smoke detector

Yesterday's Solution



Today in History

1170 Archbishop Thomas Becket was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral in England.

1813 The British burned Buffalo, N.Y., during the War of 1812.

1851 The first American Young Men's Christian Association was organized, in Boston.

1890 The Wounded Knee massacre took place in South Dakota as some 300 Sioux Indians were killed by U.S. troops sent to disarm them.

1989 Playwright Vaclav Havel was elected president of Czechoslovakia by the country's Federal Assembly, becoming the first non-Communist to attain the post in more than four decades.

Su|do|ku | © *Puzzles by Pappocom*

Degree of Difficulty: HARD

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

		4	1					
				9	5	8		
	3							6
	5		7		1			8
	7			2			5	
6			9		8		4	
8							7	
		7	2	4				
					3	2		

Yesterday's Solution

6	9	2	3	8	1	5	4	7
8	3	1	4	7	5	9	2	6
5	7	4	6	9	2	1	3	8
9	8	7	5	4	3	6	1	2
1	5	6	9	2	8	3	7	4
4	2	3	7	1	6	8	9	5
2	6	9	8	3	4	7	5	1
7	4	5	1	6	9	2	8	3
3	1	8	2	5	7	4	6	9

Can't get enough Sudoku? Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.

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Left-Field Loops

DJ Prefuse 73 is a tech-savvy producer of multiple guises

MUSIC | Guillermo Scott Herren boasts more aliases than a felon on the lam, but don't ask him to play favorites. "All things I create, I consider equal," said the eclectic producer and DJ known to most nightclubbers as Prefuse 73. "Even if it's a one off, I want it considered the same."

The Barcelona-by-way-of-Atlanta beatmaker hits the Black Cat on Friday with a history of blurring sonic borders between hip-hop, electronica and loads of other genres. Among the disparate projects in the can for this influential multi-instrumentalist in his many guises are traditionalist duo Savath & Savalas, the soulful Delarosa & Asora and organic instrumentation of Piano Overlord.

COURTESY GUILLERMO HERREN

PROG ROCKS : Guillermo Heren, aka Prefuse 73, catapults hip-hop into the future.

Despite acclaim for far-reaching genre-bending, Herren has garnered the most kudos as Prefuse 73 — wielding a futuristic take on hip-hop with a hefty infusion of artistic randomness.

While he's legitimately at home when collaborating with rap heavies like Mos Def, El-P and Ghostface Killah, Herren's equally familiar with concocting folk melodies inspired by Spain's Catalan region (see Savath & Savalas).

Those taking in the gig at the Black Cat will hear Herren and DJ pal Ryan Rasheed preview sonic stunners from his forthcoming "Security Screenings" disc without a band. "[We're] doing stuff pretty intimately and minimal with just machines. This is how we started," describes Herren.

While tech-savvy listeners might make up a hefty portion of his devotees, those who morph PCs into illegal download bazaars tend to make Herren's blood boil. He maintains struggling artists are shafted by illicit tune ripping. "I don't steal music," he flatly stated. "I don't steal food, I don't steal anything."

With oodles of progressive projects, it's a wonder how Herren has time for Eastern Developments — his avant-garde record label rife with innovative artists. Following Herren's lead, it's safe to say the entire operation is completely devoid of bling. CRAIG SMITH

➜ *Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; Fri., 9:30 p.m., $15; 800-551-7328. (U St.-Cardozo)*

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Old-Time and New

Adrienne Young's earnest Americana has dirt-stained roots

MUSIC | The trouble with many people who endeavor to live an upstanding life is that they seem so miserable doing it — and feel little compunction about spreading that misery to others. But Adrienne Young is having a wonderful time.

Looking wistfully back on her lost agrarian heritage, the hyphenate-folkie included a packet of wildflower seeds in her 2003 CD "Plow to the End of the Row." You can scatter them across your front yard come spring or you can shake 'em like a pair of maracas right now.

In the thank-you list for the follow-up, "The Art of Virtue," Young gives "hugs to Benjamin Franklin for writing it all down." Yes, it's that Ben Franklin, and no, she's not fooling around.

ADRIENNEYOUNG.COM

STOMP AND CLAP: Young takes traditional country music and makes it her own.

She has a knack for taking the wisdom of the ages — from "Bonaparte's Retreat" and "Cluck Old Hen" to a pacifist pledge from 17th-century Quakers — and melding it with what sounds good today. Young is no wide-eyed innocent. She studied at Belmont, Nashville's Music U, and she cobbled together demo money temping on Music Row.

When Young and her band, Little Sadie, play a late show at Jammin' Java Friday, they'll likely draw on the same fan base that packed the place when all-female nouveau stringband Uncle Earl played last month or when the all-male, more trad Dirk Powell Band hit the Double-J Ranch last year.

So line up early, and be neighborly. It's the right thing to do.

GLENN DIXON

→ *Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna; Fri., 9:30 p.m., $12; 703-255-1566.*

HotTickets

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↑ **MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK** 9:30 Club, March 19, $15; 703-218-6500.

→ **CATS** Hippodrome, Jan. 10, $19-$54; 800-551-7328.

→ **WU-TANG CLAN: TRIBUTE TO O.D.B** 9:30 Club, Feb. 13, $10; 703-218-6500.

→ **BLACK BOY** Kennedy Center, Jan. 13-Jan. 15, $15; 800-444-1324.

→ **WASHINGTON BRIDAL SHOWCASE** Patriot Center, Jan. 29, $8-$10; 800-551-7328.

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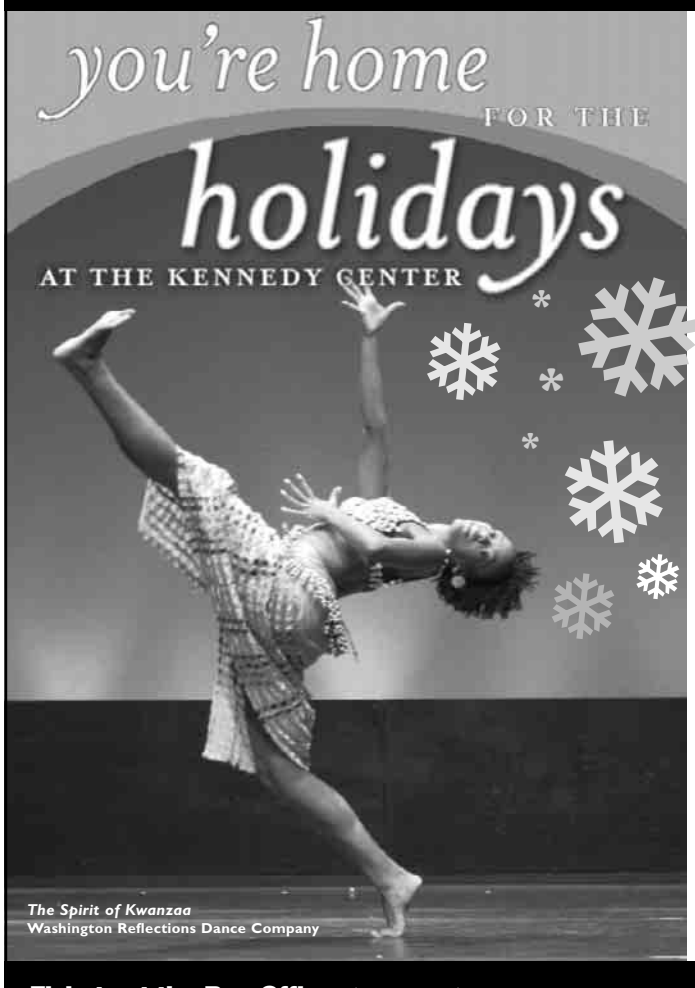

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NEW YEAR'S EVE ✻ DEC. 31, 2005

New Year's Eve at the Kennedy Center

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* Tickets for all New Year's Eve performances include admittance to the Grand Foyer Party starting at 11 p.m., featuring a balloon-and-confetti midnight countdown and waltz and swing dancing with The Salon Orchestra of Washington and Full Swing until 1 a.m.

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STRINGING IN THE NEW YEAR: Eddie From Ohio's Robbie Schaeffer does a double stint at Jammin' Java; veteran bassist Joe Byrd rocks Montgomery College.

Party All the Time

What are you doing New Year's Eve? D.C. has numerous options

OUT & ABOUT | If you haven't made New Year's Eve plans yet, the clock is ticking. So what hasn't been sold out? Plenty.

These are a few of our favorites. You can see many more options on washingtonpost.com's City Guide, or hear us talk about some of our favorite live music options on the new Nightlife Agenda podcast, washingtonpost.com/podcasts.

Mirrors snagged Mike Brooks and Tony Woods of P. Diddy's Bad Boys of Comedy to go along with their 8 to 10 p.m. open bar. New York's DJ S&S handles peak of the night duties. Spring for the VIP ticket and get a separate party room with more grub, more booze and live R&B from Soundproof Band.

International crowd-motivator King Britt will bring cosmopolitan boogie stylings to Love, a place that generally would never let one of his brilliant records cross its threshold. Get to Love early for an open bar (7 to 8 p.m.) and dinner buffet (7 to 9:30 p.m.).

Busboys and Poets will be making noise on U Street. They've got a snazzy New Year's menu, live jazz in the cozy Langston Room and a DJ in the lounge.

Charging $20 to see Washington Social Club would seem a cruel trick to play on D.C. power-pop-craving masses any other day of the year. But on New Year's Eve, it's the best bargain in town. After the DC9 show, drummer Randy Scope will man the DJ booth along with Liberation Dance Party's Bill Spieler.

If you've resolved to start 2006 with some culture, Art Romp 18 at the Warehouse Theater is a showcase that allows area artists to take over the building. There will even be a cookout in the parking lot. The event runs from 6 to 10 p.m., so stick around for Lobster Boy's interactive vaudville burlesque show.

Irish pubs are an island of sanity in the sea of overpriced, over-hyped New Year's Eve parties. At Nanny O'Brien's, owner Brian Gaffney and Brendan's Voyage perform rousing traditional Celtic music. Bethesda's Ri-Ra celebrates twice: There's a toast at 7 p.m.to mark the beginning of 2006 in Dublin and again at midnight. Reverend Hookems performs in the small bar for free. There's no cover at Finn Mac Cool's on Barracks Row, but the bar offers a DJ and $2.50 pints.

Fado has DJ Puck, two toasts and a $5 cover. Around the corner, the Irish Channel has pub favorite Andy Driscol performing until 11 p.m., followed by a DJ until 2 a.m. There's no cover and a midnight toast. FRITZ HAHN, RHOME ANDERSON AND DAVID MALITZ (WASHINGTONPOST.COM)

COURTESY PEACHES O'DELL; SAM ERICKSON

LOCAL: Top, Last Train Home holds forth at Iota; Peaches O'Dell celebrates in style at the Black Cat; Washington Social Club accepts new members at DC9.

Top Stops

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COURTESY FREER GALLERY OF ART

Freer presents ancient Japanese rituals, a landmark book and cracked jugs.

100 Years of Tea: The Long Brew

One hundred years ago, Charles Freer donated more than 350 Asian ceramic pieces to the U.S. Coincidentally, "The Book of Tea" (a tome that, for the first time, explained the importance of Japanese tea rituals to English readers) was published the same year. The gallery displays Freer's tea-related ceramics and his journal entries about them.

Freer Gallery, 12th Street and Jefferson Drive SW; through May 29; 202-633-4880. (Smithsonian)

Encouraging Genius: Smart Art

Catch the Corcoran's remarkable exhibit of more than 85 iconic pre-1945 American paintings before it closes Monday. Colonial portraiture, the Hudson River School, the Gilded Age, early 20th-century realists and interwar abstract pieces are duly represented.

Corcoran Gallery of Art, 500 17th St. NW; 202-639-1700. (Farragut West)

Dr. Seuss Retrospective: Festive and Restive

This travelling exhibit showcases a young Seuss' first-rate editorial cartoons, his private paintings and plenty of cats in hats.

P & C Art Gallery, 3108 M St. NW; 202-965-3833. (Dupont Circle)

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Please send press releases and photos to expressevents@readexpress.com

WeekendPass | Entertainment

TWP

WHEN YOU'RE A JET: The timeless story of Tony and Maria — uh, Romeo and Juliet — comes back to the stage and screen.

Tony and the Jets

STAGE | "West Side Story" is just like "Romeo and Juliet," only with rival gangs instead of feuding families, finger-snapping instead of thumb-biting and switchblades instead of daggers. There's less suicide, but that's to be expected of a show that features dancing and lovestruck street thugs.

"West Side Story," a collaboration of Jerome Robbins, Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim and Arthur Laurents, is currently staged by Performing Arts Productions Inc. at Baltimore's Lyric Opera House.

The story is well-kn own: Boy meets girl, the pair fall in love. Alas, they cannot be together because boy is a Jet and girl is a Shark, and never the twain shall mix. The duo chance it anyway, with predictably disastrous results.

It all happens to striking choreography and classic tunes, so it's both visual treat and tearjerker. Directed by Tony-winner George Faison, this version should be a professional one.

For those who can't make the Baltimore trek, or really like popcorn, AFI Silver is showing the Academy-Award-winning screen version of the musical early next week. ERIN TROMPETER

→ *Lyric Opera House, 140 W. Mount Royal Ave., Baltimore. Md.; Thu. & Fri., 8 p.m., Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 p.m.; $35-$67.50; 410-481-7328.*

→ *AFI Silver Theatre, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; Mon., Jan. 2, 3:20 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 4-Thu., Jan. 5, 8:45 p.m.; $6.75-$9.25; 301-495-6720. (Silver Spring)*

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If the Spirit Moves

Robert Randolph & the Family Band ring in the new with praise

MUSIC | Want to end the year in the Holy Spirit? If so, then go to the 9:30 Club this Sunday and check out Robert Randolph & the Family Band.

Randolph's unique brand of backyard honky-tonk, blues, funk and gospel can be so potent it'll turn the staunchest non-believer into a Bible-thumping Holy Roller. Well, at least as long as he's delivering his intoxicating, sweat-evoking concerts, which can be likened to a Wednesday-night church revival.

If Kirk Franklin is the epitome of blinged-out contemporary gospel, then Randolph characterizes the grungier apocalyptic side of it. With his distinctive steel-guitar playing and the rollicking countrified rhythms of his group, Randolph often evokes the eerie soul-psychedelica of early P-Funk and the spooky electric blues of '80s era-James Blood Ulmer. Even Randolph's peppiest songs have a devilish edge, in part attributable to the music's emotional intensity.

DANNY CLINCH

HOLY ROLLERS: Steel-guitar master Robert Randolph, second from left, leads his Family Band in a gospel celebration.

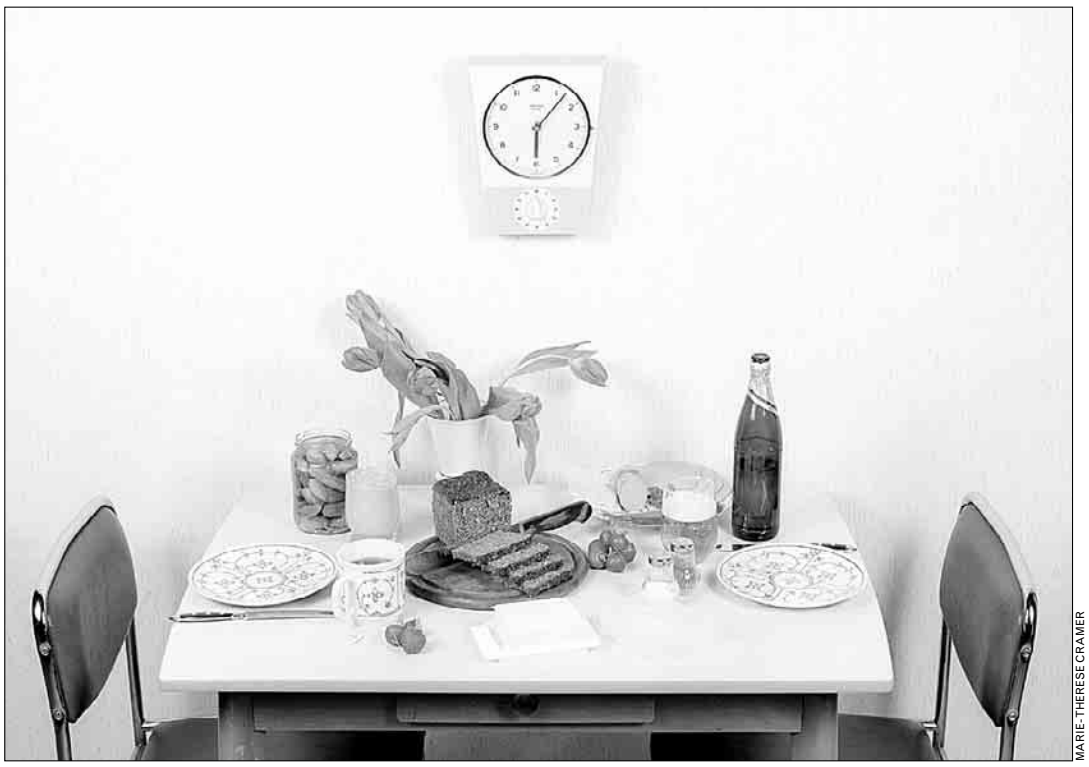
To be sure, Randolph sounds like a throwback bama compared to the flossy hip-hop theatrics of Franklin, but there's no disputing his musicality. His prowess on the steel-guitar has attracted hipsters like Medeski, Martin & Wood, Soulive, Dave Matthews and Carlos Santana.

Also, Randolph's two discs, "Live at the Wetlands" (Dare, 2002) and "Unclassified" (Warner Bros., 2003) have both played a major role in reviving stripped-down Pentecostal-style gospel alongside the ever-expanding jam band scene, making it seem all so cool for young tie-dyed hippies to praise the Lord's name in a loud, joyous celebration.

And while you might not be completely transformed, Randolph's music will certainly touch you with the spirit. JOHN MURPH

➜ *9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW; with State Radio, Sat., sold out; 202-393-0930. (U St. -Cardozo)*

GALLERIES | TEUTONIC RELATIONSHIP



MARIE-THERESE CRAMER

PICTURE OF A PEOPLE: Twenty-eight photo-design students from the University of Applied Sciences Dortmund tackle questions of German identity in "The Art of Being German," a fascinating and diverse exhibit at the Goethe-Institut. Themes such as prejudice and stereotypes, nationality, history, internationalism and individuality take vivid shape in this series of provocative photographs. Goethe-Institut, 812 7th St. NW; through Feb. 28; 202-289-1200.

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Variety, With Spice

Judi Dench and the naked truth behind 'Mrs. Henderson'

BARING ALL | Judi Dench has no problem with onscreen nudity.

In her most recent film, "Mrs. Henderson Presents," Dench, 71, plays Mrs. Laura Henderson, a widow who stages variety shows featuring nude women in her 1930s London theater. The film is based on a true story. As Dench explains, "Nudity had to be in this film because that's what the story is about."

The actress took questions about Mrs. Henderson and other roles and her return as James Bond's boss, M, in the upcoming "Casino Royale."

FOCUS FEATURES

THE LADY'S NOT A TRAMP: Judy Dench, right, as Mrs. Henderson, a widow who stages nude revues in her 1930s London theater.

So what attracted you to this character?

I didn't read it first. I was told the story. Having been told the story, I thought it was irresistible.

What do you have in common with her?

Oh, I don't ever do that. I'm sure I have to find and draw from what she's like ... I know the whole business of being widowed suddenly and having a lot of energy and using that energy and not sitting around.

How do you feel about the Oscar buzz on this film?

Well, it's a speculation. And the speculation goes on about lots and lots of people. I think it's rather dangerous to have it said about you.

Doing "Casino Royale," what do you think of Daniel Craig as the next James Bond?

I think he's probably got a jolly hard job. I would hate to be in his shoes. I'm sure it's thrilling and exciting for him and for us, too. My bit doesn't start filming until February '06. I get a week in February.

That's a neat job.

It's not easy. I'm always using gadgets and I'm always having to do something with them. In one of the Bond movies, I'm captured and have to untie myself and use one of these gadgets to save the world. And my family were under the seat while they were watching the movie. They would say, "Forget the world, she's not going to make it." PETERSON GONZAGA (VNU ENTERTAINMENT NEWS WIRE)

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

DIAMOND LIFE: Karen Black stars in Alfred Hitchcock's last film, "Family Plot."

Indies & Arties

Written for the Screen: Ernest Lehman Remembered

In Hollywood, screenwriters are rarely the heroes of their own films. But in Silver Spring, credit is being given where it credit is due. AFI Silver's showcase of some of the best-loved and most impressive films to spring from the master adapter's hands includes "The Sound of Music" screening Thursday, "North by Northwest" on Friday, and "The Sound of Music"; "North by Northwest" and "Family Plot" all showing up on Saturday and Sunday. Beginning Monday, "West Side Story" prances into town.

The Jim Henson Company: 50 Years of Myth & Magic

The seminal, sumptuous animated/live action fantasies from the Muppet factory — and some little-seen Jim Henson short subjects — make a magical return in time for the new year. "The Dark Crystal" and the short "Time Piece" screen on Thursday and Sunday; "Labyrinth" and "Jim Henson Experimental Shorts" on Friday.

➜ *The above films are at AFI Silver Theater, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; 410-495-6720. (Silver Spring)*

Take 10

THE WASHINGTON POST'S FILM CRITICS TACKLE THIS WEEK'S BOX-OFFICE TOP 10

1 King Kong

It's 187 minutes of mesmerization, astonishment, thrills, chills, spills, kills and ills, the best popular entertainment of the year.

2 The Chronicles of Narnia

Andrew Adamson's sterling version of C.S. Lewis' classic children's fantasy is well told, handsome, stirring and loads of fun. STEPHEN HUNTER

3 Fun With Dick and Jane

This Jim Carrey-Téa Leoni remake is a no-brainer with a brain, a light, inoffensive comedy. ANN HORNADAY

4 Cheaper by the Dozen 2

The close-knit family of 12 kids is unraveling in this sequel that adds only a numeral to a good-natured but dull franchise. DESSON THOMSON

5 The Family Stone

Braying, self-righteous, predictable, morally superior and loud, the Stones are the subject of a film that means to celebrate them but only denigrates. STEPHEN HUNTER

6 Memoirs of a Geisha

This adaptation is everything you'd expect it to be: beautiful, mesmerizing, tasteful, Japanese. But not remotely enticing. STEPHEN HUNTER

7 The Ringer

This comedy wants credit for its audaciousness for lampooning the athletes of the Special Olympics, but it's terrified of going too far. STEPHEN HUNTER

8 Rumor Has It

This romantic comedy is a jarring amalgam of sitcom goofiness and uncomfortable ooginess. DESSON THOMSON

9 Wolf Creek

An antidote to the sentimental excesses of the season, with mayhem, slaughter, torture and degradation. STEPHEN HUNTER

10 Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

Readers of the novels may be disappointed by the omissions, but they'll enjoy the large-scale action and smaller-scale interaction. DESSON THOMSON

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Jennifer Aniston and Kevin Costner share a pitcher and more in "Rumor Has It."

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There's the Party

A Trans Am show means a good time in any — every — genre

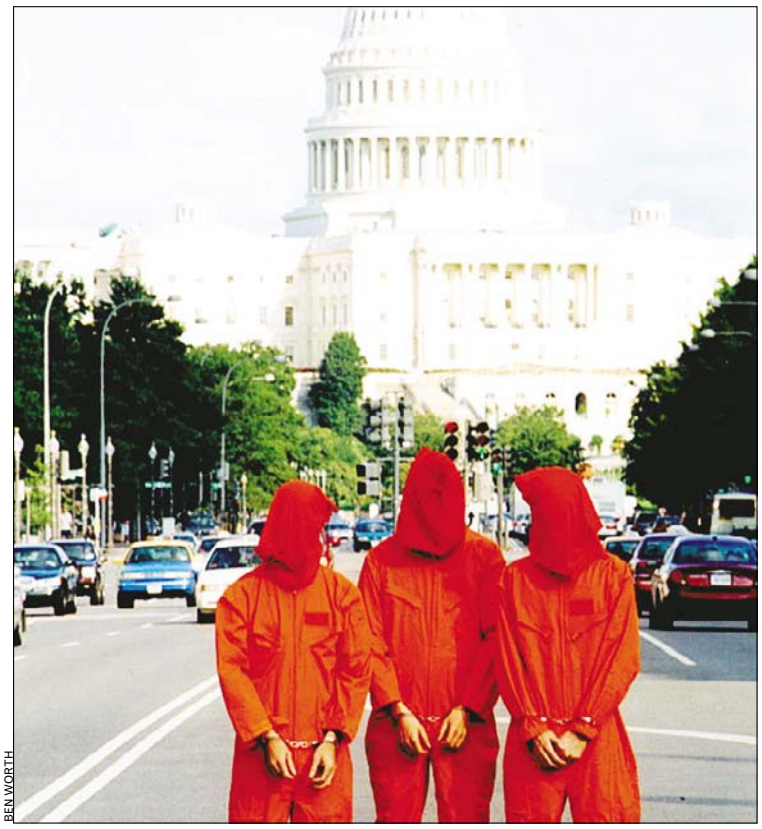
MUSIC | Over the decade of its existence, Trans Am has never taken itself too seriously. The trio were among the first indie bands to sport the Ironic Mustache. They were early adapters of vintage synths among the post-rock scene. Their songs were always vocals-optional.

But Trans Am is serious about a party — making loud, tight, danceable rock since before Bloc Party and Franz Ferdinand were eligible for their high school proms. Along with the Apes and Rah Bras, they'll be getting a jump on the new year this Thursday.

Trans Am's self-titled first album was an upbeat melange of square waves and nerdy grooves. Recorded by John McEntire (of Tortoise), it announced the current era in which past (aka classic rock) and future (aka Kraftwerk) collide. It also announced a new palette of possibilities for the D.C. scene.

Over seven albums, the band weaved among a variety of styles. There was the funny, kitschy prog cheese of "Surrender to the Night." The Atari utopianism of "Futureworld." And in 2004, political protest with "Liberation" — their most ambitious and pointed work to date.

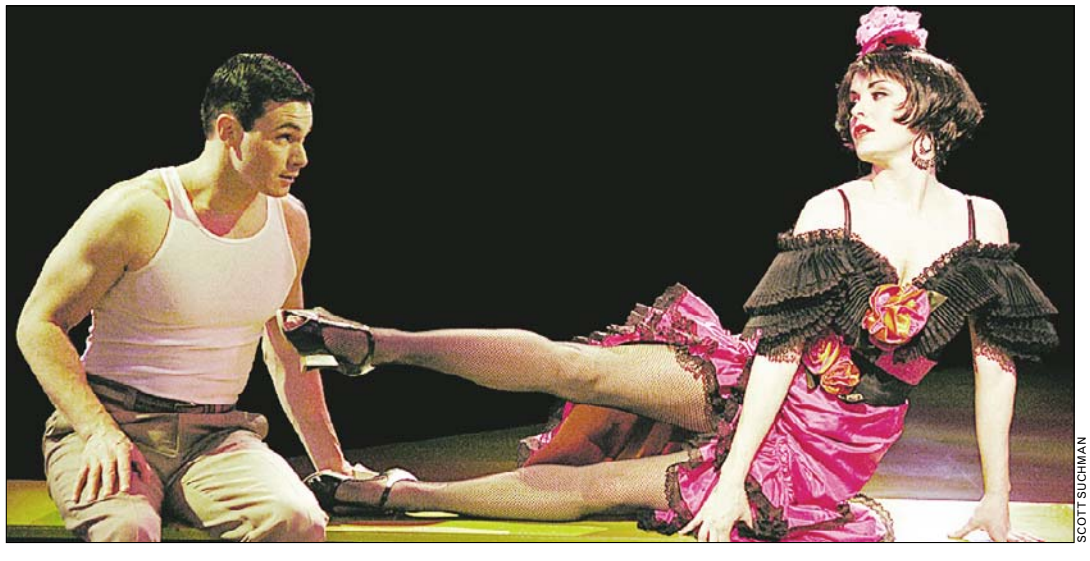
But the beauty of a Trans Am show is that the deep thoughts are there for those that want them, but the grooves are for everyone all the time. BOB MASSEY


BEN WORTH

WHAT CAPITOL? For some reason, the guys in Trans Am never enjoyed sight-seeing.

➜ *Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; Thu., 8:30 p.m. $12; 800-551-7328. (U St.-Cardozo)*

STAGE | DEAL WITH THE DEVIL


SCOTT SUCHMAN

WHATEVER LOLA WANTS: The devilishly delightful musical "Damn Yankees" is tearing it up at Arena Stage, complete with baseball, seductresses, Satan and "miles and miles and miles of heart." This production stars Matt Bogart as "Shoeless" Joe Hardy and Meg Gillentine as Lola. Arena Stage, 1101 6th St. SW; through Feb 5.; 202-488-3300.

Entertainment | WeekendPass

The Scene

Sound

➜THURSDAY

Apex: College Night," featuring DJ Randy White, 9 p.m, free with college ID, $5 without.

Birchmere Music Hall: Southside Johnny & the Asbury Jukes, Deanna Bogart, 7:30 p.m., $32.50.

Black Cat: Trans Am, the Apes, Rah Bras, 8:30 p.m., $12.

Blues Alley: Ahmad Jamal, 8 & 10 p.m., $27.50.

Crossroads: DJs the Young Boss, Alizay, Jet Lee, Zone One, Majestic, 5 p.m., free before 9 p.m.

DC9: Rattier, the Guilty Pleasures, Fuzzy Byskits, 9:30 p.m., $7.

Five: Latin party, 10 p.m., $5.

Improv: Christian Finnegan, Matt Kazan, 8:30 p.m., $15.

Iota Club & Cafe: John Eddie, Billy Coulter, 9 p.m., $12.

Jammin' Java: Adelyn, Lemonface, Everyone But Pete, 7:30 p.m., $8.

Jaxx: Running with Scissors, Baba G'nush, Avea Disaster, 7:30 p.m., $5.

Kennedy Center: Mamadou Diabate, 6 p.m., free. The Washington Chorus: Music for Christmas, 7 p.m., $19-$56.

Nation: The Birthday Massacre, 7:30 p.m., $10.

9:30 Club: The Roots, 8:45 p.m., sold out.

Platinum: Reggae/Reggaeton, DJs QicSilver, Smokey Joe, Jose.

State Theatre: Railroad Earth, Dennis Jay, Lonesome Town, 9 p.m., $15.

Zanzibar: Comedy on the Waterfront, 7 p.m., free.

➜ FRIDAY

Asylum: Supreme Commander, the A.K.s, Jimmy and the Teasers, 10 p.m., $5.

Birchmere Music Hall: Hank Williams Tribute with Robin & Linda Williams & Their Fine Group, Bill Kirchen, Cathy Fink, Marcy Marxer, more, 7:30 p.m., $30.

Black Cat: Prefuse 73, Tyondai Braxton, 9:30 p.m., $15. The Lowdown with DJs Almighty Dollah and Lunch Money, 9:30 p.m., free (backstage).

Blues Alley: Ahmad Jamal, 8 & 10 p.m., $27.50.

Club Amazon: Rare Essence, 10 p.m., $10, ladies free before 11 p.m.

Crossroads: Bobby's Music Machine, Sprang International, Peter Humphries & the Oasis Band, more, free before 8 p.m.

DC9: Liberation Dance Party, 9:30 p.m., $5.

LIVE ROCK | UNDER THEIR SPELL

SEAN WATHEN

HYPNOTIC ROCK: Shane Hines and the Trance evoke artists from Eve 6 to John Mayer, but the local quartet are more dynamic and artistic than those radio staples. Hines' chops and deeply hooky, melody-driven songs — not to mention his bee-yootiful voice — will pack Iota Club & Cafe on Friday, but it's the absence of banality that really bewitches.

Five: EMC - Mike Haddad & Alex Haje, 9 p.m., $10.

Fur: Hip-hop, house, international, 10 p.m., ladies free, $20 in advance.

Improv: Christian Finnegan, Matt Kazan, & 10:30 p.m., $17.

Iota Club & Cafe: Shane Hines and the Trance, Taylor Carson, 9:30 p.m., $10.

Jammin Java: An Evening with the Deanna Bogart Band, 7 p.m., $15. Adrien Young and Little Sadie, 9:30 p.m., $12.

Jaxx: Localpalooza with A Life Among Ghosts, Angle on Illumination, Scott Norris, Dysphoria, the Gray January, more, 2 p.m., $10.

Kay Spiritual Center: Positive Youth Fest with Attrition, Chugga Chugga, Chiefs, Coasts, Danke, Olive Tree, Piedmonster, Rue the Day, 5 p.m., free.

Kennedy Center: The Maurice Lyles Quintet, 6 p.m., free.

MCI Center: Bow Wow, Omarion, Marques Houston, Chris Brown, Ciara, 7 p.m., $45.

Nation: Cubik, 9 p.m.

9:30 Club: North Mississippi Allstars, Steel Train, 9:45 p.m., $20.

Platinum: Plush with DJ Alize, 9 p.m., ladies free until 12 p.m., $10-$15.

Twins Jazz: Oliver Lake, 9 & 11 p.m., $15.

State Theatre: The Nighthawks, Rosslyn Mountain Boys, 9 p.m., $16.

Velvet Lounge: The Omega Band, the Hipnotix, the Chariots, 10 p.m., $8.

Zanzibar: R & B, live jazz, DJ Quicksilver, more, free before 7 p.m., $15 after 10 p.m.

➜ SATURDAY

Apex: DJ Melissa, 9 p.m., $15.

Asylum: Sitali, Sakrid, DJs Tru R.A.G.E., Cosmolog & Onis, 9 p.m., $10.

Austin Grill: Leaving Tx., 9:30 p.m., $5. 919 Ellsworth Dr. Silver Spring.

Birchmere: The Seldom Scene, Goode Deale Bluegrass Band, Bob Perilla's Big Hillbilly Bluegrass, 8 p.m., $39.50.

Black Cat: Peaches O'Dell, 9:30 p.m., $20.

Blue Gin: DJ Mandrill, 9 p.m., $20. 1206 Wisconsin Ave. NW.

Blues Alley: Ahmad Jamal Trio, Ketter Betts Memorial Band, 5 & 9:30 p.m., $100-$150.

Busboys and Poets: Rahmat Shabazz, DJ Spin, $65.

Cafe Citron: Latin and disco music, 10 p.m., $35. 1343 Connecticut Ave. NW.

Cafe Saint-Ex: DJ DK, free. 1847 14th St. NW.

Chloe: DJs spin hip-hop & house, 9 p.m., $20. 2473 18th St. NW.

Clarendon Ballroom: Cover bands Gonzo's Nose & Flip Like Wilson, DJ Pat Premier, 9 p.m., $95. 3185 Wilson Blvd. Arlington.

Crossroads: Masquerade Ball, 10 p.m.

DC9: Washington Social Club, 9:30 p.m., $20.

Eleventh Street: DJ Double o7, 8 p.m. 1041 N Highland St. Arlington.

Five: DJs Trencher, Roger Samuel & Toussant, free champagne, 8 p.m., $80.

French Embassy: Screenings French movies, ballroom dancing to a live orchestra, DJs, much more, 9 p.m., $130. 4101 Reservoir Rd. NW.

Fur: George Acosta, Christi Shake, 10 p.m., $40.

Galaxy Hut: Free New Year's Thing, 9:45 p.m., $10.

Glen Echo Spanish Ballroom: Tom Cunningham Orchestra (swing covers), alcohol-free, 8 p.m., $25. 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Glen Echo.

H2O: Carl Thomas, 8 p.m., $30. 800 Water St. SW.

Half Moon Bar-B-Que: "Honky tonk the way it should be," 9:30 p.m. 8235 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring.

Helix: Masquerade party, 8 p.m., $20. 1430 Rhode Island Ave. NW.

Hilton Alexandria Mark Center: The Positive Black Men Coalition presents go-go bands Familiar Faces, the After Hours Band & WPGC-FM's DJ Rico, 8 p.m., $50. 5000 Seminary Rd. Alexandria.

Hilton McLean Tysons Corner: Mix 107.3's party package includes a four-course dinner, hotel room and the Jack Diamond/Jim Steed Band, $399 per couple. 7920 Jones Branch Drive McLean.

Hilton Silver Spring: SalsaMetro.com's 8th Annual NYE Party, with Edwin Ortiz Y Su Orquesta La Romana, DJs Mike (El Sonero) Morales & El Oso Negro, 7 p.m., $100. 8727 Colesville Rd. Silver Spring.

Hilton Washington & Towers: DC101's Elliot in the Morning and Roche, Cowboy Mouth, the Pat McGee Band, Kenin, more, 9 p.m., $169-$250. 1919 Connecticut Ave. NW.

Holiday Inn: Hot 99.5's DJ Yuck, 8 p.m., $119. 5520 Wisconsin Ave., Chevy Chase.

HR-57: The HR-57 All-Stars, 9 p.m., $75. 1610 14th St. NW.

Hyatt Regency Crystal City: The Positive Black Men Coalition presents the Manhattans, Soul Patrol, DJs, 7 p.m. 2799 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Arlington.

Improv: Christian Finnegan, Matt Kazan, 8 & 10:15 p.m., $35-$75.

Iota Club and Cafe: Last Train Home, Timothy Bracken Complex, 8 p.m., $30.

Jammin' Java: New Year's Eve for Kids with Robbie Schaefer, 2 p.m., $8. Robbie Schaefer, Todd and Melissa (of Bliss Green), 8 p.m., $30.

Jaxx: Bloodlines, 8:30 p.m., $10.

Jury's Washington Hotel: Euronet International New Year's Eve Around the World, 9:30 p.m., $119-$250. 1500 New Hampshire Ave. NW.

JV's Restaurant: Martha Capone Blues Band, 9 p.m., $15. 6666 Arlington Blvd. Falls Church.

Kay Spiritual Center: Positive Youth Fest with An Alarm, Baby Killer Estelle, the Catalyst, How we Tie Knots, Knorwood, Mass Movement of the Moth, the Max Levine Ensemble, Your Friends, 5 p.m., free.

Kennedy Center: The Salon Orchestra of Washington, 6 p.m., free. A Jazz New Year's Eve, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., $60. National Symphony Orchestra performs Copland, Mendelssohn, more at a New Year's celebration, $50-$90. Ticketholders for all the day's performances are

Continued on E15

Friday in

The Washington Post | *Weekend Section*

Only the Best: Weekend's critics list the greatest music, movies and art of 2005. | *Cover*

➜ Also, the year in nightlife; Keith Byron Kirk discusses playing Che in "Evita," now at the Warner; a field trip to Maryland's Sugarloaf Mountain.

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

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Owen Gleiberman

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★ MUNICH (R) (2:45)6:00 9:20
THE FAMILY STONE (PG–13) (2:50 3:40 5:10)6:10 7:35 9:10 10:00
SYRIANA (R) (3:50)6:40 7:10 9:25 9:50
YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (3:00 5:00)
RENT (PG–13) (3:10)6:20 9:15
WALK THE LINE (PG–13) (3:30)6:30 9:30
CAPOTE (R) (2:30 4:50)7:20 9:50

Cineplex Odeon DUPONT CIRCLE 5
Dupont Circle
1350 19th Street 202-972-9956

★ BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) (2:00 3:00 4:00 5:00) 6:00 7:00 8:00 9:00 10:00
★ CAPOTE (R) (2:10 4:50)7:30 10:10

MAGIC JOHNSON THEATRES
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★ RUMOR HAS IT...(PG–13) (12:50 3:20 5:50)8:20 10:50
★ WOLF CREEK (R) (1:10 3:30)6:10 8:30 11:00
★ THE RINGER (PG–13) (12:40 3:05 5:20)7:40 10:20
★ FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG–13) (12:25 2:50 5:10)7:35 9:55
★ CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) (12:00 2:25 5:00)7:30 10:00
★ KING KONG (PG–13) (11:30 2:00 2:30 3:00) 6:00 6:30 7:00 7:30 10:00 10:30
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) (1:15 4:15)7:15 10:15
AEON FLUX (PG–13) 7:45 10:45
YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (1:00 3:10 5:35)
IN THE MIX (PG–13) (11:50 2:20 4:50)7:25 9:50
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (12:45 4:00)

Cineplex Odeon UPTOWN
Cleveland Park
3426 Connecticut Avenue 202-966-8805

★ KING KONG (PG–13) (10:30 2:45)7:00 11:00

Cineplex Odeon WISCONSIN AVE. CINEMAS
4000 Wisconsin Avenue N.W. 202-244-0882

★ MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (2:40)6:10 9:20
★ MUNICH (R) (1:00 4:30)8:10
★ CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) (2:10 4:45)7:10 9:45
SYRIANA (R) (12:50 3:45)6:45 9:40
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) (12:20 3:30)6:30 8:20 9:30
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (1:10 4:40)

Loews WHITE FLINT 5
North Bethesda 310-423-1014

★ THE PRODUCERS (PG–13) (2:30)6:05 9:15
★ MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (2:00)6:20 9:25
★ THE FAMILY STONE (PG–13) (2:15 4:40)7:00 9:20
★ KING KONG (PG–13) (2:00)6:00 9:40
SYRIANA (R) (3:00)6:15 9:00

Cineplex Odeon SHIRLINGTON 7
2772 South Randolph 703-971-0978

THE PRODUCERS (PG–13) (1:30 4:20)7:00 9:40
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (2:00 5:00)8:00
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) (2:20 3:00 5:20)6:20 8:20 9:20
SYRIANA (R) (2:10 4:50)7:30 10:10
BREAKFAST ON PLUTO (R) (1:50 4:30)7:10 9:50
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) (2:30)
CAPOTE (R) (5:10)7:40 10:00

Loews GEORGETOWN
3111 K Street, N.W. 202-346-6033

★ RUMOR HAS IT... (PG–13) (11:30 2:10 4:50)7:20 9:50
★ CASANOVA (R) (11:50 3:00 5:40)8:20 11:00
★ THE PRODUCERS (PG–13) (12:10 3:10)6:10 9:10
★ MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (10:50 12:30 3:40 5:50)6:50 10:00
★ MUNICH (R) (11:00 12:00 2:30 3:30)6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30
★ FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG–13) (11:10 1:30 4:10)6:30 8:50 11:10
★ THE FAMILY STONE (PG–13) (11:20 1:50 4:40)7:10 9:40
★ KING KONG (PG–13) (12:20 1:10 2:00 4:30)6:20 8:30 9:20 10:20
SYRIANA (R) (1:40 4:50)7:50 10:50
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) (1:00 4:20)7:30 10:40
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (11:40 3:20)
WALK THE LINE (PG–13) 10:10

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Wheaton Plaza Shopping Center,
Viers Mill Rd. Btwn. Georgia & University 901-949-9202

RUMOR HAS IT... (PG–13) (12:10 2:30 5:10)7:50 10:15
THE RINGER (PG–13) (11:40 2:10 4:20)7:10 9:20
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (12:00 3:20)6:30 9:30
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG–13) (12:30 2:50 5:30)7:40 9:50
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) (1:10 3:30 5:40)8:00 10:10
THE FAMILY STONE (PG–13) (12:20 2:40 5:00)7:45 10:20
KING KONG (PG–13) (11:15 2:00 3:00)6:00 7:00 10:00
SYRIANA (R) (1:00 4:00)6:50 9:45
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) (11:30 3:15)6:10 9:10
YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (12:40 3:10 5:20)7:30 9:35

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EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
MUNICH (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1150 325) 705 1030
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1225 245 510) 745 1015
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1140 210 440) 710 935
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CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1100 1145 120 210 340 435) 610 710 830 945
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BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1105 115 205 420 505) 715 810 1010
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1130 1200 110 330 400 515) 735 815 930
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1125 225 525) 820
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1220) 950
RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (1150 220 335 450) 705 740 1010

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EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
WOLF CREEK (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1045 140 435) 720 1005
RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (1030 125 420) 715 1000
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1000 135 455) 820
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1040 115 410) 725 955
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1105 110 155 415 500) 715 805 950 1040
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1015 1100 130 215 425 510) 705 750 945 1025
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1025 105 405) 710 1015
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1130 1230 330 430) 730 830
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 735 1035
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1010 1240 120 350 430) 700 740 1010
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1215 400)
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1020)

BETHESDA 10
7272 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 569#

THE PRODUCERS (PG-13) DIG (1215 325) 720 1015
RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (110 420) 715 945
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1220 320) 740 1000
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1250 410) 735 955
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1235 405) 720 1010
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1130 1200 330 400) 730 800
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1230 345) 710 1005
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1135 1205 310 340) 630 700 955
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG 1000

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EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (1000 1225 250 515) 705 740 930 1005
MUNICH (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1215 345) 715 1045
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1140 210 440) 655 925
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1155 1235 220 300 445 525) 710 750 935 1015
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1115 1145 145 215 420 450) 650 725 920 955
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1150 225 500) 735 1020
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1135 1200 1230 330 400 430) 730 800 830
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (950 1010 1240 100 120 350 410 430) 700 720 1010 1030
WOLF CREEK (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1100 140 415) 645 915
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG 745 1040
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1135 315)

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RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (1120 220 500) 730 1000
THE PRODUCERS (PG-13) DIG (1250 410) 720 1030
MUNICH (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1220 420) 830
WOLF CREEK (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1115 230 510) 740 1020
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1050 1240 200 320 430 550) 700 840 930
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1140 250 530) 800 1025
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1015 1150 110 240 340 520) 630 750 1015
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1020 100 350) 640 920
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1100 1200 310 400) 710 810
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1010 120 450) 715 820 1035
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1210 330) 650 945
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1030 1130 1230 215 315 415 540) 645 745 850 950
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1040 150 440)
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG 900
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1110 300) 620 940

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Weeknights after 6 PM- all day Saturday/Sunday

Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1030 145 455) 735 1015
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1045 155 440) 755 1025
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1145 335) 710 1005
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1040 140 445) 750 1040
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1130 1200 330 400) 730 800
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1140 320) 700 1020
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (115 405) 715 1010
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) (955 100 410) 720 1030
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1010 120 430) 740
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (950)
WOLF CREEK (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1035 150 450) 745 1020
THE PRODUCERS (PG-13) DIG (1135 325) 725 1035
RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (1125 155 435) 705 950

FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10
4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670#

Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (1245 345 415) 650 730 1000
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1220 420) 725 1010
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1200 1250 320 400) 710 740 940 1020
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1140 1230 350 430) 700 750 930
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1150 1210 1240 310 340 410) 640 720 950 1030
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1130) 1015

GERMANTOWN STADIUM 14
20000 Century Blvd 800-FANDANGO 455#

Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1015 1100 100 140 345 420) 740 1015
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1230 300 525) 730 800 1000 1035
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1130 1200 330 400) 730 800
RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (1100 200 445) 715 950
THE PRODUCERS (PG-13) DIG (1020 120 420) 720 1020
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1000 110 415) 720 1025
WOLF CREEK (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1030 1250 310 530) 750 1030
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1200 215 445) 745 1000
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1020 120 420) 710 945
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 1020
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1000 1240 100 350 410) 700 720 1010 1030
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1150 325) 700

UA SNOWDEN SQ STADIUM 14
9161 Commerce Ctr Dr 800-FANDANGO 570#

Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1115 200 500) 815 1030
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1030 130 430) 715 950
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1145 215 445) 745 1020
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1015 415) 730
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1130 1200 1230 330 400 430) 730 800 830
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1200 330) 715 1020
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 645 950
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1000 1100 100 200 400 500) 700 800 1000
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1145 315)
WOLF CREEK (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1130 230 530) 815 1030
THE PRODUCERS (PG-13) DIG (1000 100 355) 700 1010
RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (1030 130 415) 745 1010
OC & DA: FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (115) 1015

MANASSAS STADIUM 14
11380 Bulloch Drive 800-FANDANGO 490#

Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1100 140 435) 800 1030
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1050 1120 130 200 420 440) 710 940
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1150 220 450) 725 745 945 1015
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1010 1240 310) 630 910
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG (1130 1200 330 400) 735 805
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1210 320) 635 1000
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1250 345) 645 950
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (950 1230 100 350 410) 700 720 1010 1025
WOLF CREEK (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1045 120 425) 750 1020
THE PRODUCERS (PG-13) DIG (1220 325) 650 1005
RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) DIG (1030 110 340) 705 935
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1020)

Times For 12/29/05 Daily Bargain Matinees In ( ) OC= Open Captioned DA= Descriptive Audio Available * Pass / Discount Ticket Restrictions Apply ©2005

To Mali and Back

Mamadou Diabate's kora spans the sea, then returns home

MUSIC | Anyone who caught the Mamadou Diabate Ensemble's September concert at National Geographic or picked up the U.S.-based, Mali-born kora player's 2000 release "Tunga" knows that, backed by balafon, djembe, guitar and bass, he can throw down. Incorporating elements of jazz, blues and contemporary pop, the band generated massive, trancelike grooves.

But on 2005's Grammy-nominated "Behmanka," as well as at Thursday's Millennium Stage performance, the focus is on tradition and solo virtuosity. Originating in Gabu, the 21-string kora has for centuries been the instrument of choice for Manding griots, or *jelis*.

In Mali, music is ruled by family dynasties. Diabate had the good fortune to be born into one of the country's most eminent musical clans, but this son of Instrumental Ensemble of Mali kora player Djelimory Diabate also had a passion for the instrument. When his mother, concerned that music distracted her son from his studies, took Mamadou's kora away, he set about making himself a new one.

Likened to a cross between a lute and a harp, the kora at its sweetest sounds somewhat like a hammer dulcimer — if anyone liked the hammer dulcimer.

But Diabate's playing never cloys. Delicate arpeggios and quicksilver runs are set off with sharp dissonances and percussive plucking. Shimmering highs are anchored by the deep bass tones of the kora's longest strings.

In the liner notes to "Behmanka," Diabate explains that it was time "to show people how well you know your instrument," to "play the songs my father taught me a long time ago ... the way I do today." He does his father proud. GLENN DIXON

➜ *Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage, 2700 F St. NW; Thu., 6 p.m., free; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)*

COURTESY ONQUEUE ARTISTS

THEME FROM DYNASTY: The 21-string kora is a tradition in the Diabate family.

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TYSONS CORNER 16
7850 Tysons Corner Center
703-998-4262

THE PRODUCERS (PG13) ✓ 11:30, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15
RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) ✓ 10:55, 1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:10
WOLF CREEK (R) ✓ 1:15, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 1:00, 3:30, 4:30, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) DV CC ✓ 1:00, 4:30, 8:00
THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 11:40, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 3:00, 4:20, 5:25, 7:05, 9:35
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 11:15, 2:00, 4:25, 7:10, 8:05, 9:40, 10:35
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) ✓ 10:30, 1:20, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45
KING KONG (PG13) 10:45, 11:45, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 6:45, 7:45, 8:45, 9:45, 10:20
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 11:40, 12:40, 3:10, 4:10, 6:40, 7:40, 10:50
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 11:25, 3:25, 6:55
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 10:35, 1:35
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 10:50 AM

HOFFMANN CENTER 22
Eisenhower Ave and Telegraph Road in Alexandria
703-998-4AMC

THE PRODUCERS (PG13) 12:00, 3:00, 6:05, 9:05
MUNICH (R) 1:30, 5:00, 8:30
RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) 11:50, 12:55, 2:25, 3:30, 4:50, 6:00, 7:20, 8:35, 10:05, 11:00
WOLF CREEK (R) 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) 11:40, 1:05, 2:55, 4:35, 6:00, 7:45, 9:10, 10:55
THE RINGER (PG13) 11:55, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) 10:50, 11:50, 1:25, 2:25, 3:50, 4:50, 6:25, 7:30, 8:55, 9:55
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DV CC 10:50, 1:25, 3:50, 6:25, 8:55
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) 12:15, 2:00, 3:00, 4:45, 5:40, 7:10, 8:10, 9:50, 10:35
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 12:10, 2:30, 5:15, 6:40, 7:40, 9:40, 10:25
KING KONG (PG13) 10:45, 12:05, 1:00, 2:45, 4:00, 5:05, 6:45, 8:00, 9:00, 10:45
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 11:45, 12:25, 1:40, 3:05, 3:45, 4:55, 6:15, 7:05, 8:15, 9:30, 10:15
SYRIANA (R) 12:20, 3:20, 6:30, 9:35
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 11:35, 1:50, 4:10
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 11:50, 3:25, 6:55
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 10:30 PM
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 11:15 AM

UNION STATION 9
Located at Union Station
703-998-4AMC

RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) ✓ 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 8:15, 10:30
RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) CC ✓ 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 8:15, 10:30
WOLF CREEK (R) ✓ 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 12:15, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 12:45, 2:55, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) ✓ 2:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:35
KING KONG (PG13) 12:00, 2:20, 4:00, 6:05, 8:00, 9:50
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 1:15, 4:20, 7:30, 10:30
SYRIANA (R) 1:00, 4:25, 7:10, 10:10
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 12:10 PM

COLUMBIA MALL 14
10300 Patuxent Parkway
410-423-0520

MUNICH (R) ✓ 11:15, 2:50, 6:35, 10:10
RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) ✓ 12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 10:00
WOLF CREEK (R) ✓ 12:00, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:45
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) ✓ 12:20, 3:50, 7:10, 10:20
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) DV CC ✓ 12:20, 3:50, 7:10, 10:20
THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 12:15, 3:00, 5:25, 7:45, 10:40
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 10:00, 12:25, 2:55, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 10:30, 1:15, 4:10, 7:20, 9:55
KING KONG (PG13) 11:50, 1:45, 4:00, 6:30, 8:15, 9:40, 10:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 11:30, 12:45, 2:45, 4:15, 6:15, 7:35, 10:50
SYRIANA (R) 10:10, 1:00, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 11:20 AM
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 12:10, 3:30, 7:00
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 10:25 PM

SPRINGFIELD MALL 10
Loisdale and Franconia Road
703-971-3991

THE PRODUCERS (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50
WOLF CREEK (R) ✓ 1:30, 4:50, 7:50, 10:20
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:15
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 1:15, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) DV CC 1:15, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00
KING KONG (PG13) 12:30, 4:30, 7:30, 8:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:45, 4:00, 7:10, 10:15
SYRIANA (R) 7:20, 10:10
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 1:15, 4:30
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 12:15, 3:45

RIVERTOWNE 12
Exit 4A I-95, 1/2 mi. on Oxon Hill Rd.
703-998-4AMC

RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) 1:30, 4:50, 8:10, 10:30
WOLF CREEK (R) 1:30, 4:50, 8:00, 10:40
THE RINGER (PG13) 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 8:00, 10:30
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) 12:50, 3:10, 5:25, 7:50, 10:10
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) 1:00, 3:20, 5:50, 8:10, 10:40
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 1:00, 4:30, 7:40, 10:00
KING KONG (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 4:30, 5:30, 8:20, 9:50
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 1:40, 4:20, 7:30, 10:20
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 12:40, 3:00, 5:10, 7:50, 10:00
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 12:30, 3:50, 7:10, 10:20

COUNTRY CLUB MALL 6
Country Club Mall on Vocke Rd near Route 68.
703-998-4AMC

RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) ✓ 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35
THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:05
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45
KING KONG (PG13) 12:00, 4:00, 8:00
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:05

POTOMAC MILLS 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
703-998-4262

THE PRODUCERS (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:00, 7:20, 10:25
MUNICH (R) ✓ 12:10, 3:50, 7:20, 10:50
RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) ✓ 1:40, 4:25, 7:00, 9:40
WOLF CREEK (R) ✓ 12:35, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 10:50
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:30, 7:50, 11:00
THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 10:45, 1:05, 3:30, 5:50, 8:20, 10:55
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 10:50, 11:50, 1:30, 2:30, 4:10, 5:00, 6:50, 7:40, 9:30
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 10:30, 11:40, 12:40, 2:10, 3:10, 4:40, 5:40, 7:10, 8:10, 9:40, 10:40
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 11:20, 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
KING KONG (PG13) 10:30, 12:50, 2:20, 4:00, 5:10, 6:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:10, 11:00
KING KONG (PG13) DV CC 12:50, 5:10, 9:00
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 1:10, 3:15, 4:20, 6:30, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30
SYRIANA (R) 1:25, 4:55, 7:50, 10:45
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 11:30, 1:40
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 11:50, 3:25
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 10:05 PM
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 10:40 AM, 12:45 PM

MAZZA GALLERIE
Jenifer and Wisconsin
202-537-9553

THE PRODUCERS (PG13) 12:50, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:30, 9:55
THE RINGER (PG13) 12:25, 2:45, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) 12:45, 2:30, 3:00, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, 10:00
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) DV CC 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 12:15 PM

COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8
Courthouse and Birch Rd.
703-998-4AMC

THE PRODUCERS (PG13) ✓ 12:20, 4:10, 7:15, 10:15
MUNICH (R) ✓ 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30
WOLF CREEK (R) ✓ 12:40, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) ✓ 12:30, 4:00, 7:20, 10:40
THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 12:50, 3:10, 5:25, 7:45, 10:00
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:10, 3:20, 4:30, 6:30, 7:35, 9:45, 10:45
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 1:10

ACADEMY 8
Beltway Plaza on Greenbelt Rd., Center Court
703-998-4AMC

RUMOR HAS IT (PG13) ✓ 2:30, 5:20, 8:00, 10:20
WOLF CREEK (R) ✓ 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 2:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 1:50, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 2:10, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
KING KONG (PG13) 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 7:00, 9:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 1:40, 4:40, 8:00

✓-**SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT** -No passes or discount coupons please.

Times for Thursday, December 29, 2005

express movie showtimes

MARYLAND

LANDMARK'S
BETHESDA ROW
7235 Woodmont Ave • (301) 652-7273

Moviefone (301 or 202) 333-FILM #805
Bargain Mats. all shows before 6 pm
CAPOTE (R) 1:55, 7:15
GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 11:30, 4:45, 9:55
CASANOVA (R) 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 11:15, 1:15, 2:10, 4:05, 5:05 7:00, 8:05, 9:50
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) 1:05, 4:25, 7:45, 9:40
BREAKFAST ON PLUTO (R) 11:05, 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55
MUNICH (R) 1:00, 4:15, 8:15
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 10:45, 1:25, 4:10, 7:05

MARLOW 6 THEATRES
3899 Branch Avenue
Temple Hills, Md. 301-316-1031
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 11:30, 4:30, 9:30
AEON FLUX (PG-13) 2:00, 7:00
WOLF CREEK (R) 11:45, 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45
KING KONG (PG-13) 11:00, 1:00, 2:45, 4:45, 6:30, 8:30
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG-13) 11:20, 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) 12:10, 3:10, 6:10, 9:10

P&G WESTFIELD MONTGOMERY
7101 Democracy Blvd. Beth. 301-767-9555
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM!
THE PRODUCERS (PG-13) No Passes 1:30, 4:15, 7:10, 9:50
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) No Passes 1:15, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) No Passes 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
HELP WANTED—ALL POSITIONS

P&G OLD GREENBELT 301-474-9744
40 ft. Screen
At intersection of Crescent & Southway
www.pgtheatres.com
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13)
NO FREQUENT MOVIE GOERS
COUPONS OR PASSES (4:30 @ $5.00) 7:30

VIRGINIA

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Internet Tickets @:
www.cinemaartstheatre.com
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 11:35, 2:15, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15
THE PRODUCERS (PG-13) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
SYRIANA (R) 11:45, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:10
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) 4:25, 9:50
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 12:50, 7:20

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E St. at 11th St. NW • (202) 452-7672
Moviefone (301 or 202) 333-3456 #781
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM
TRANSAMERICA (R) 11:40, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40
GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 12:05, 2:20, 4:45, 7:15, 9:25
THE SQUID AND THE WHALE (R) 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
CASANOVA (R) 11:15, 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
SARAH SILVERMAN: JESUS IS MAGIC (NR) 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00
BREAKFAST ON PLUTO (R) 11:00, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
THE KEEPER: THE LEGEND OF OMAR KHAYYAM (PG) 12:15, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25, 9:35
GO FOR ZUCKER (NR) 4:50, 9:55
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 11:05, 1:50, 7:05

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PERFORMANCES

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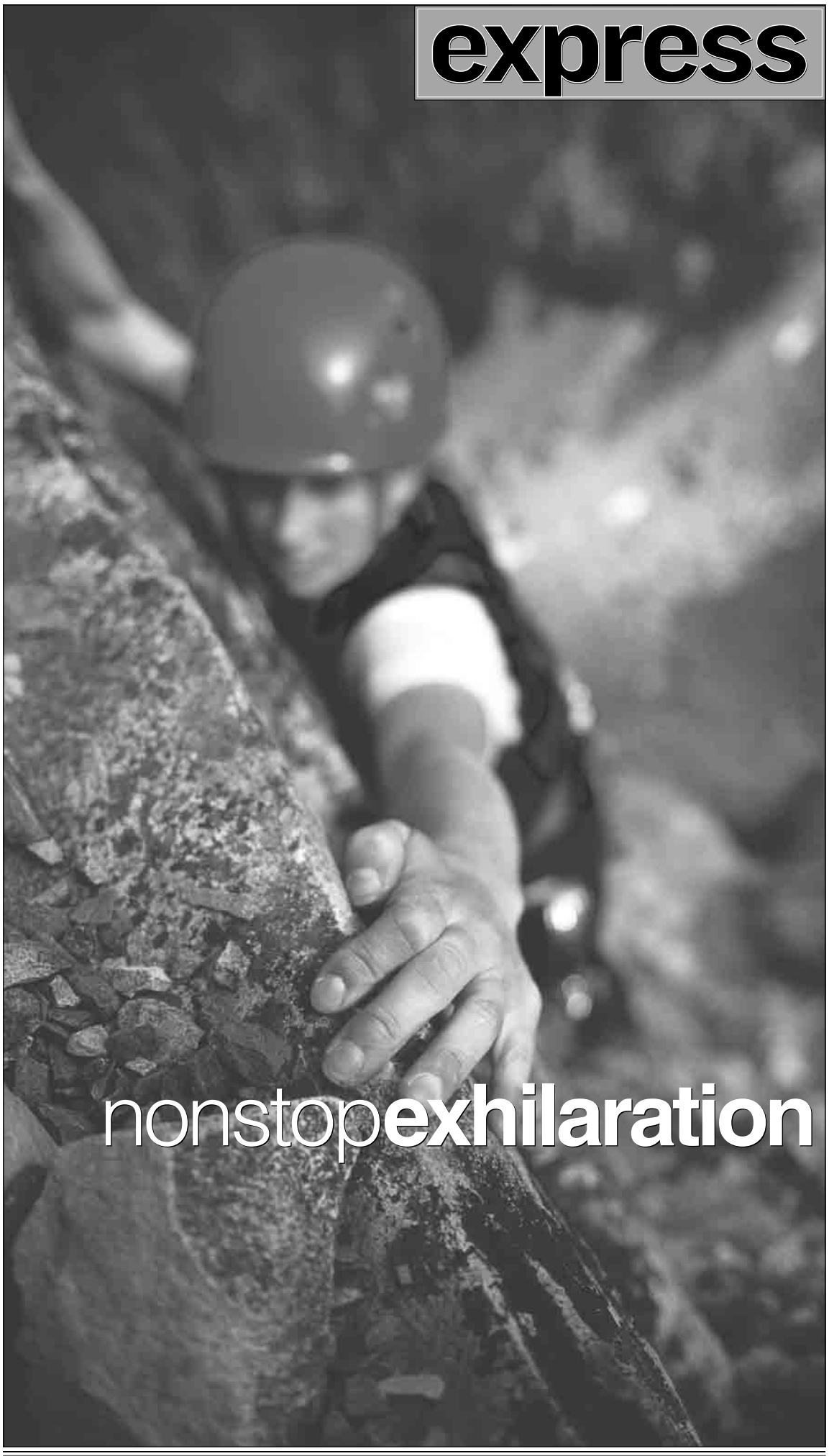

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Entertainment | WeekendPass

TheScene

Continued from E11

invited to waltz and swing to two bands until 1 p.m.

Love: King Brit, 7 p.m., $30. 1350 Okie St. NE.

Lulu's Club Mardi Gras: Cover band Diamond Alley, DJs spin cajun, zydeco, more, 8 p.m., $60. 1217 22nd St. NW.

Kirkpatrick's Irish Pub: Covers band Dr. Fu, 9:30 p.m., free. 44050 Ashburn Shopping Plaza, Ashburn.

Mirrors: Comedians Mike Brooks & Tony Woods and DJ S&S. 8 p.m., $30. 33 New York Ave. NE.

Modern: DJ Blk Ceaza spins hip-hop, party classics, more, 8:30 p.m., $40. 3287 M St. NW.

Montgomery College: The Joe Bird Quintet plays the Parilla Performing Arts Center, 9:30 p.m., $50. 51 Mannakee St. Rockville.

Nanny O'Brien's Irish Pub: Brendan's Voyage, 9 p.m., $10. 3319 Connecticut Ave. NW.

Nation: DJ Abel, 10 p.m., $20.

LIVE COUNTDOWN | MIDNIGHT KISS

FROM PAT MCGEE

TICK, TICK: The Pat McGee band is among the acts taking the stage at the Downtown Countdown at the Hilton Washington on New Year's Eve. Join DC101's Elliott in the morning, Cowboy Mouth, Boogie Knights and more.

9:30 Club: Robert Randolph & the Family Band, State Radio, 9:45 p.m., sold out.

Pharaoh's Rock N' Blues Bar & Grill: Owner Walter Robinson's band plays Hendrix, Cream, more, 9 p.m., $30 in advance. 1817 Columbia Road NW.

Continued on E16

venues

Apex: 415 22nd St. NW; 202-296-0505.

Asylum: 2471 18th St. NW; 202-319-9353

Birchmere Music Hall: 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria; 703-549-7500.

Black Cat: 1811 14th St. NW; 202-667-7960.

Blues Alley: 1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-337-4141.

Busboys & Poets: 14 & V Sts. NW; 202-387-7638

Clarice Smith Center: U-Md., College Park. Md.; 301-405-2787.

Club Amazon: 13501 Baltimore Ave., Laurel, Md.; 301-210-3466.

Crossroads: 4103 Baltimore Ave., Bladensburg, Md.; 301-927-1056.

DC9: 1940 9th St. NW; 202-483-5000.

Five: 1214B 18th St. NW; 202-331-7123.

Folger Shakespeare Library: 201 East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-4600.

Fur: 33 Patterson St. NE; 202-842-3401.

Galaxy Hut: 2711 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-525-8646.

H2O: 800 Water St. SW; 202-484-6300.

Improv: 1140 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-296-7008.

Iota Club & Café: 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-522-8340.

Jammin' Java: 227 Maple Ave., East Vienna; 703-255-1566.

Jaxx: 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield; 703-569-5940.

Music Center at Strathmore: 5301 Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda; 301-581-5100.

Nation: 1015 Half St. SE; 202-554-1500.

9:30 Club: 815 V St. NW; 202-265-0930.

Platinum: 915 F St. NW; 202-393-3555.

Republic Gardens: 1355 U St. NW; 202-232-2710.

State Theatre: 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church; 703-237-0300.

U-Turn: 11th & U Sts. NW; 202-299-9882.

Velvet Lounge: 915 U St. NW; 202-462-3213.

Warehouse Next Door: 1017 7th St. NW; 202-783-3933.

Zanzibar: 700 Water St.; 202-554-9100.

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VOL. I ★ RESTAURANT & GRILLE ★ EST. 1987

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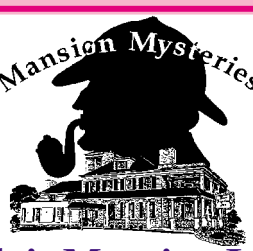

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WeekendPass | Entertainment

TheScene

Continued from E15

Platinum: Memphis Bleek, 8 p.m., $30 (advance).

Reef: DJs Eurok and Orbit 122, open bar, 8 p.m., $110. 2446 18th St. NW.

Rock Bottom Brewery: Memphis Gold (R&B covers), 5 p.m., $10. 4238 Wilson Blvd. Arlington.

Source Theatre: Actors Theatre of Washington (DC's GLBT theatre co.) hosts their third annual SEXE fundraiser, 9 p.m., $25+. 1835 14th St. NW.

Starland Cafe: The Kennedys, Bill Danoff, Jon & Bon Carroll, 10 p.m., $85.

State Theatre: The Legwarmers, 9 p.m., sold out.

Strathmore: National Philharmonic's New Year's Celebration, 8 p.m., $250.

Tequila Beach: DJs spin top 40 and more, seven-hour open bar, 8 p.m., $85. 1115 F St. NW.

Thunder Grill: DJs Lost Soul & Bikram Keith, 8 p.m., $50. 50 Massachusetts Ave. NE.

Twins Jazz: Oliver Lake, 9 & 11 p.m., $65. 1344 U St. NW.

U-Turn: Pessimest Parade, the Screws, Alleged Bricks, the Unabombers, 9 p.m., $10.

Vegetate: DJ Dredd, 11 p.m. $25. 1414 9th St. NW.

Washington Court Hotel, Capitol Hill: WHUR-FM presents live jazz and DJs playing soul, hip-hop, reggae and much more, 8:30 p.m., $65. 525 New Jersey Ave. NW.

Whitlow's on Wilson: Back to Zero, 8 p.m., $35. 2854 Wilson Blvd.

Zanzibar: DJs, 7 p.m., $60.

➜ SUNDAY

Black Cat: Graboids, Flatline Skyline, 9 p.m., $5.

Crossroads: Dancehall, 10 p.m.,

DC9: Taint, 9:30 p.m., $3.

Five: Trade (alternative lifestyles), 9 p.m.

Jammin' Java: Robin Wynn, Mike Holden, 8 p.m., $8.

Platinum: DJs Alize, Trini, & Superslice-Muzik Nashun, 9 p.m., $10-$15.

LIVE COUNTRY | FRIENDS OF HANK W.

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THE HILLBILLY SHAKESPEARE: Robin & Linda Williams & Their Fine Group, Bill Kirchen, Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer and many other musicians step in to pay tribute to Hank Williams' enduring legacy at the Birchmere on Friday night.

Sight

While the Smithsonian Museums are open every day but Jan. 1, not every gallery in the area plans to open on Dec. 31, New Year's Eve, or Jan. 1, New Year's Day. Please call the museum or gallery you choose to visit in advance.

America Oh, Yes!: The folk art gallery showcases the rather creepy art of Sandi Mastroni: fantasy-inspired paintings of cats, rabbits, people & more, ongoing. 1700 Connecticut Ave.; 202-721-0043.

Anne C. Fisher Gallery: South American Holiday: four South American artists living in D.C. show their work together, through Jan. 13. PostSecret: a fascinating display of secrets people share anonymously, ongoing. 1054 31st St. NW; 202-625-7555.

Ann Loeb Bronfman Gallery: Aliza Olmet: Tikkun. Broken eggshells are reunited & enhanced through photography & computers, through Jan. 30. 16th & Q Streets; 202-518-9400.

Arlington Arts Center: Mori: Go into a dark room and virtually experience the

WeekendPass

LIVE FOLK | RAW OUTTA THE GROUND

COURTESY NMAS

WITH FOLKS LIKE THESE ... : Contemporary folk was never so scary, vicious, earthy and versatile as it is in the hands of the North Mississippi Allstars, who knock the earnestness out of the genre at the 9:30 on Friday.

TheScene

world's geological events occurring at that moment. Seriously. Drawing: Tradition & Innovation, featuring 22 artists, juried. Tell Me More Stories: Marie Anasazi and Zoe Leoudaki's collaborative work explores fairytales using film. Thu., Anasazi will put on a dress made of yellowing text and be the recipient of fairytales, all through Jan. 7. 3550 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington; 703-248-6800.

Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives: Adolf Cluss, German immigrant turned influential D.C. architect, through Feb. 28. 1201 17th St. NW; 202-442-6060.

Corcoran Gallery of Art: Encouraging American Genius, the gallery's pre-1945 master paintings, through Jan. 2. Sam Gilliam, A Retrospective, through Jan. 22. Warhol Legacy, through Feb. 20. 500 17th St. NW; 202-639-1700.

D.C. Arts Center: In Memory D. Thompson, curated by Buck Downs, a series of poems created by rubbing text on headstones in Congressional Cemetary, through Jan. 22. 2438 18th St. NW; 202-462-7833.

Flashpoint: Corcoran College Professor Christopher Williams makes the gallery his own by filling it with his sculptures, creating new barriers, painting on the walls and more, through Jan. 14. 916 G St. NW; 202-315-1310.

Folger Shakespeare Library: Consuming Splendor: Luxury Goods in England (1580-1680), through Dec. 31. 201 East Capitol St. NE; 202-544-4600.

Fraser Gallery Bethesda: Winter Group Exhibit: New work by artists represented in the gallery including David FeBland & Maxwell MacKenzie, through Jan 11. 7700E Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda; 301-718-9651.

Fraser Gallery Georgetown: New realist charcoal on paper drawings by F. Lennox Campello, opening reception Fri., 6-9 p.m., through Jan. 18. 1054 31st St. NW; 202-298-6450.

Freer Gallery of Art/Arthur M. Sackler Gallery: Imperial Costumes From Ottoman Turkey, through Jan. 22. Gold, the Asian Touch, through Feb. 19. Perspectives: Mei Ling Hom, a site-specific installation, through March 5. Chinese Music and the Visual Arts, through March 26. Jefferson Drive & 12th Street SW; 202-633-4880.

Goethe-Institut: The Art of Being German, young people's photographs on the subject of German identity, history, nationalism and stereotypes, through Feb. 28. 812 7th St. NW; 202-289-1200.

Hillel's Schusterman International Center: Darfur Drawn: The Conflict of Darfur through Children's Eyes. Sudanese children's drawings, through Jan. 20. 800 8th St. NW; 202-449-6537.

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden: Hiraki Sawa's black-and-white digital video works, through March 1. Directions — Jim Hodges, a billboard on the museum's facade, through April 1. 7th Street & Independence Avenue. SW; 202-633-1000.

Irvine Contemporary: Gina Brocker: The Donovans and Other Settled Travellers. Sean Foley: Rubes, Scuttlebutt and Log-

Continued on E18

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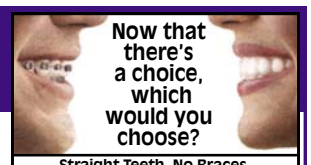

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SAT 31	BLACK CAT NEW YEARS EVE BALL $20 — W/ PEACHES O'DELL & HER ORCHESTRA; TONY ANTHONY & HIS MALVIVANTS; DJ MARK ZIMIN SPINNING ON THE BACKSTAGE ALL NIGHT!

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TUE 3	VERBAL, TUNGSTEN 74
WED 4	GULLEY JIMSON QUARTET, TRAYLOR PARK ROMEOS, DEMIVOLT
THU 5	NITRO TOKYO, RPG $5
FRI 6	MN8 PRESENTS: MUSTAFA AKBAR — CY YOUNG, MUSINAH $9
SAT 7	SUPERSYSTEM — FRENCH TOAST, RIS PAUL RIC
TUE 10	THE TRAVIS MORRISON — HELLFIGHTERS, CATARACT CAMP, HAND FED BABIES
THU 12	THE EXPLOSION
SAT 14	THE MOUSETRAP — BRITPOP DANCE NIGHT
SUN 15	CRAIG WEDREN (EX-SHUDDER TO THINK)
FRI 20	CRYFEST — CURE VS. SMITHS DANCE PARTY
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WeekendPass

TheScene

Continued from E17

gerheads; through Dec. 31. 1710 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-332-8767.

LAST CHANCE Kathleen Ewing Gallery: Michael Gross: Sources: new paintings, prints and drawings, through Dec. 30. 1609 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-328-0955.

Mandarin Oriental: French painter Jean Marc Huss' images of Buddha, through Feb. 28. 1330 Maryland Ave. SW; 202-554-8588.

National Air and Space Museum: World War II Aviation, Golden Age of Flight, Beyond the Limits, Space Flight, many more, ongoing . 4th Street & Independence Avenue SW; 202-357-2700.

National Archives: The Way we Worked, photos and artifacts honoring, and exploring the changes in the lives of, American working people, through May 29. Constitution Ave. & 9th St. NW; 202-501-5000.

National Building Museum: Jewish Washington: Scrapbook of an American Community, through Jan. 8. Civitas: Traditional Urbanism in Contemporary Practice, through Jan. 8. Liquid Stone: New Architecture in Concrete, through Jan. 29. Investigating Where We Live, photographs, poems, stories and narratives explore three D.C. neighborhoods, through Feb. 19. Cityscapes Revealed: Highlights from the museum's permanent collection, including early 20th century artifacts & photographs, ongoing. 401 F St. NW; 202-272-2448.

LAST CHANCE National Gallery of Art: Pieter Claesz: Master of Harlem Still Life, through Dec. 31. Masterpieces in Miniature: Italian Manuscript Illumination from the J. Paul Getty Museum, through Jan. 2. The Prints of Felix Buhot: Impressions of City and Sea, through Feb. 20. Winslow Homer, through Feb. 20. Monumental Sculpture in Florence: restored 15th-century works by Ghiberti, di Banco and del Verrocchio, through Feb. 26. Asher B. Durand's Kindred Spirits, through Feb. 28. Audubon's Dream Realized: Selections from "The Birds of America," through March 26. 600 Constitution Ave. NW; 202-357-5300.

National Geographic Society: Napoleon: An Intimate Portrait, artifacts including his hair and a letter he wrote as a teen, through Jan. 2. Wide Angle, a selection of varied photos from a new NGS book, through Jan. 25. 17th & M streets NW; 202-857-7588.

LAST CHANCE National Museum of American History: Azúcar! The Life and Music of Celia Cruz, through Dec. 31. La Causa: The Delano Grape Strike of 1965, through Jan. 3. Smithsonian Magazine: Through Our Readers' Eyes, through Jan. 3. Disneyland: The First 50 Years, Ray Charles: "The Genius," the American Industrial Revolution, the Star-Spangled Banner and others. 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000.

National Museum of Health and Medicine: This Dust Was Once the Man: artifacts of Lincoln. Battlefield Surgery 101: From the Civil War to Vietnam. From a Single Cell, an exhibit that documents human development until age five, all ongoing. Walter Reed Hospital, enter through Georgia Avenue and Elder Street Gate, NW (Building 54); 202-782-2200.

National Museum of Natural History:

MUSEUM | SWEET

CHIP SOMODEVILLA

CRUZ CONTROL: Many costumes and other artifacts of the late Queen of Salsa are on display through the end of the year at the National Museum of American History's exhibit "Azucar! The Life and Music of Celia Cruz."

Ancient Columbian Gold, through April 9. Frost: Life and Culture of the Sami reindeer people of Norway, through April 23. Sikhs: Legacy of the Punjab, indefinite. 10th Street & Constitution Avenue; 202-633-1000.

National Museum of Women in the Arts: Alice Neel's Women, about 80 of the famed portraitist's works through Jan. 15. Paintings & Works on Paper by May Stevens, through Jan. 15. Monica Castillo: The Painter and the Body, through Jan. 22. 1250 New York Ave. NW; 202-783-5000.

LAST CHANCE Octagon Museum: The Initiated Eye: Waddell's paintings exploring Masonic symbolism in D.C., through Dec. 31. Architecture in Perspective: marking the 20th anniversary of the American Society of Architectural Illustrators, through Jan. 20. 1799 New York Ave. NW; 202-638-3221.

Entertainment | WeekendPass

LIVE HIP-HOP | EPIC TALES

JUSTIN FRANCIS

STILL UNDERGROUND? The Roots, returning to the 9:30 Thursday, have alternately thrilled (with lyrical and instrumental skills and hilarious shoe commercials) and frustrated (with self-indulgent concerts and failures to meet their own creative standards) for almost 20 years now. White college kids will enjoy their live covers of Nirvana and Eminem.

TheScene

LAST CHANCE P & C Fine Art Gallery: More than 200 works from almost 70 years of Dr. Seuss' career, including political cartoons and private painting, through Dec. 31. 3108 M St. NW; 202-965-3833.

Phillips Collection: Sean Scully's abstract Wall of Light, through Jan. 8. More than 2000 abstract impressionist works, including art by Matisse, Picasso, Cézanne, many more, ongoing. 1600 21st St. NW; 202-387-2151.

Provisions Library: Deborah Lawrence uses to collage to satirize and express outrage, through Jan. 28. 1611 Connecticut Ave. NW, second floor; 202-299-0460.

PostSecret: The popular D.C.-based art project, featuring anonymous postcards which sport incredibly private declarations, $10 donation to charity requested, through Jan. 8. 3307 M St. NW; 202-639-1828.

Pulp on the Hill: Frank Muzzy's From Stone to Flesh, artistic black and white photos of area statues and more, from the author of "Gay and Lesbian Washington, D.C.," through Jan. 1. 303 Penn. Ave. SE; 202-543-1924.

Renwick Gallery: Modernism in American Silver, through Jan. 22. Pennsylvania Avenue & 17th Street NW; 202-633-2850.

S. Dillon Ripley Center: Retratos: 2,000 years of Latin-American portraiture, through Jan. 8. 1100 Jefferson Drive SW; 202-633-1000.

Sixth & I Historic Synagogue: Circles Within Circles: Jewish Time Frames, through Jan. 31. 6th & I streets NW; 202-789-0100.

LAST CHANCE Strathmore: 72nd exhibition of the Miniature Painters, Sculpters & Gravers society. Views of Forest Glen, Rose Folsom Calligraphy, all through Dec. 30. 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda; 301-581-5200.

Target Gallery: Washington Guild of Goldsmiths Metal 2005, juried show, through Jan. 15. Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Alexandria; 703-838-4565.

Textile Museum: Gods and Empire: Huari Ceremonial Textiles, through Jan. 15. Rozome Masters of Japan, screens, kimono, scrolls by contemporary Japanese artists using the wax-resist dyeing technique, through Feb. 12. Silk & Leather: Splendid Attire of 19th-Century Central Asia, through Feb. 26. 2320 S St. NW; 202-667-0441.

Transformer: Little Creatures, a collection of work by four artists uses art brut, comic book art, found objects, taxidermy and more to explore human-like characters and "beasties," through Jan. 14. 1404 P St. NW; 202-483-1102.

Union Gallery: Boundaries: Contemporary Landscape, feat. the work of four local artists, through Dec. 22. University of Maryland Stamp Student Union, College Park; 301-314-8492.

Union Station: Contemporary Norwegian design and architecture, through Jan. 8. 50 Mass. Ave. NE; 202-289-1908.

U.S. Botanic Garden: Slowlife: Demonstrating how a plant reacts to its inner and outer worlds, through March 26. 100 Maryland Ave. SW; 202-225-8333.

University of Maryland University College: Dynamic Spaces; Abstract Form Within and Beyond the Landscape: Painting, collage and assemblage by Larry Chappelear, through Jan. 9. UMUC Inn & Conference Center Art Gallery, 3501 University Boulevard East, Adelphi; 800-888-8682.

University of Phoenix: Experimental photographer James W. Bailey's compelling collection of found photos, through Jan. 31. NoVa Campus, 11710 Plasa America Drive, Reston; 504-669-8650.

Washington Works on Paper Gallery: The Curves of Natural Radiance: large format body prints by Angela White, through Jan. 15. 3420 9 St. NE; 202-526-4848.

Zenith Gallery: Drew Ernst's Connected, a collection of realist paintings, through Jan. 8. Artists of New York Avenue, through Jan 27. 413 7th St. NW; 202-783-2963.

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THIS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30th!!

NEW YEARS EVE SQUARED

Back by popular demand, Buzzlife is letting you choose the the local DJ talent that will play at Cubik on New Year's Eve SQUARED. All the fun of New Year's Eve in a not so traditional way on our schedule. Cubik's NYE celebration will happen the night before most club's festivities at a very reasonable price. Countdown, balloon-drop, party hats, noise-makers and a champagne toast will all happen at our 2 AM count-down. No more rushing to to get to the club before midnight. Celebrate New years the Buzzlife way.

DJ RAP and SCOTT HENRY will be rocking the decks in the main room. RAP will be playing TWO sets. A house set in the main room with SCOTT and a dnb set in the front room. The Twix DJ spokeswoman will be earning her keep tonight!

The full club with all balconies will be open to make sure you have a safe, comfortable, and Happy New Years.

MAIN ROOM

SCOTT HENRY (Ultra Records, Buzzlife, Fever)

DJ RAP B2B HOUSE/DNB SETS! (Proper Talent, Improper Talent, UK)

EDWIN CORNEJO . RAMZ . 2RIP . RANSOM & BENKO . INTELLECT . SIANFRONCCO . AB LOGIC . GODFATHER SAGE . CRISIS . DC ASSASSINS

Friday, January 6th

"THESE ARE THE BREAKS"

Buzzlife is ringing in the New Year with a bang that will blow people's minds. Looking to the influences of House, Breaks, and Electro to give people something unlike anything they have ever experienced before. This night looks to take elements that have been around for years and totally twist your perception of them to present a futuristic view of what they are now, and will become.

The chunky acid house and breaks of Lee Coombs, the dirty nasty electro and breaks of Dylan Rhymes, and the best breaks DJs Washington DC has to offer will showcase everything breaks is meant to be. THESE ARE THE BREAKS. The time is now.

MAIN ROOM

LEE COOMBS (Thrust, Perfecto, UK)

DYLAN RHYMES (Kingsize, UK)

DANIELLA DOWNS (SCION Battle of the DJs 2nd Place Winner)

JT FLASSH . TWIST . HAPPS . DJ NYSUS . MOOVE . JAY FEDZ

COMING IN 2006

DJ IRENE, TOMMIE SUNSHINE, LEE BURRIDGE, NICK WARREN, TOTAL SCIENCE, GROOVERIDER, DIESELBOY, HIVE, INFECTED MUSHROOM, PAUL VAN DYK, STANTON WARRIORS, BREAKAGE, THE DNB LIBERATION FRONT TOUR with MASON, D-STAR, BASIC OPERATIONS, MC ARMANNI, MC SHARPNESS, MICRO and MORE!

Nation: 1015 Half St. SE
One block from Metro's Green line.
Secured parking is available

All events are 18+ | Regular Hours: 9pm - 4am
OPEN BAR FROM 9 - 10PM

Advance tickets available at: www.wantickets.com/buzz

Infoline: 202.338.BUZZ

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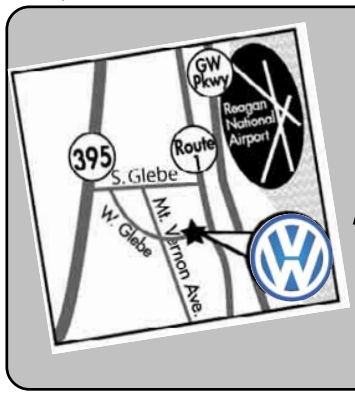

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